

# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

**Welcome to Baltimore:**

*Cover-Letter*  
**9.4.2003**

# WELCOME

*"They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself."*

*-Andy Warhol*

## Now that you're here, there's no turning back

Dear Class of 2007,

So you're here! Good! That's the first step to a successful college career. And do you know what the next one is? Reading this issue of the *News-Letter*. We know that, for every other issue, you'll read an article or two, laugh at the pictures and then use the papers to wallpaper your bathroom. But before you start decorating, take a few minutes to peruse these articles. After all, they're all geared toward you.

Let's be honest. Hopkins doesn't exactly rank up there with UCLA and the University of Hawaii in terms of college campuses, and we're all nerds. No arguments: if you go here, you're most definitely a dork. We all hate it at first, and yet, we're still here. Why is that?

As much as it sucks, Hopkins does have a few perks. We'll let you know what they are as soon as we think of them. But for now, we'll provide you with info on the go to make your classes, roommate situations and social life more enjoyable.

Despite what you've been told, the library is NOT the only place to hang out on campus, and the mice in the AMRs are actually quite friendly. Try naming one — you'll feel more at home. In most classes, you'll get your ass handed to you, but there are a

few that provide at least a temporary reprieve, or time for a nap.

There actually is a student group out there for just about anyone. But you have to make the effort to join one before you'll really reap the benefits.

Which brings us to our main point (yes, we do have one). Hopkins can be that terrible place, far away from home, where there's nothing to do but study, the classes get worse and worse, and a social life seems like a distant memory — if you let it become that.

There are ways to make these the most enjoyable four, five, or maybe even seven years of your life, and the articles included in this issue are aimed at helping you do that. Read them. Post them on your wall. Laminate them. Or if you throw them out, just don't tell us.

Special thanks to Ron, Teresa, Lindsay and Maany for their guidance and expertise. Also thanks to Denise and Vadim for their excellent photos. Thanks to all the staff for their articles, and to Jed, Evan and Fareed for copy-editing the whole damn thing.

Julianna Finelli  
and Megan Waitkoff

Focus/Special Editions Editors

## Table of Contents

### Welcome

Pg. 3

### Campus Life

Pg. 7

### Summer News Insert

Pg. A1

### Academics

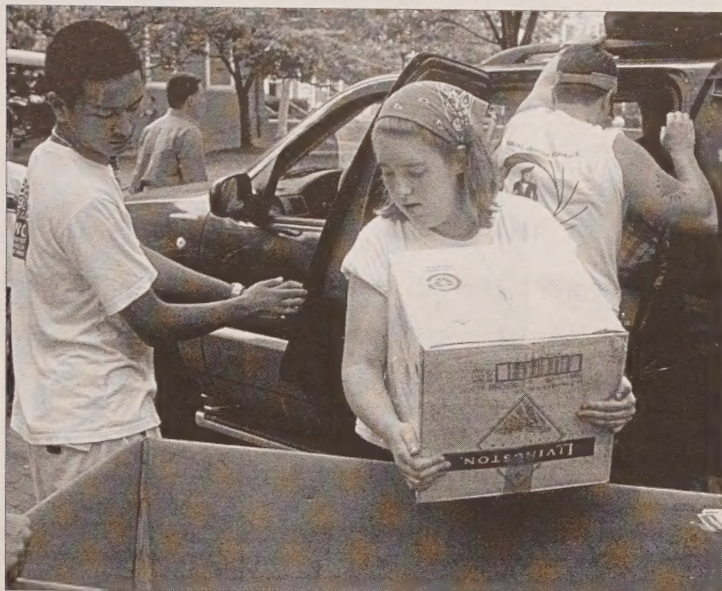
Pg. 19

### Distractions

Pg. 25

# Kiss yo' mamma goodbye: Welcome to Hopkins

WELCOME  
N-L



Junior Courtney Rice helps freshmen move their stuff into the AMRs.

DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

By Kim Andrews

It will probably rank up there with one of the most exciting days of your life. There's also a good possibility that it will be the most stressful day of your life. But there is one thing for sure about the day you get to school — it will be a day you won't forget.

Welcome to Johns Hopkins. Congratulations for the millionth time. You're in for four years of working hard, playing hard, sleeping little and drinking lots. But why project into the future when you first need to deal with the most immediate issue of all — "I'm here. My stuff is on the curb. Now what?"

After your parents have ditched you and left you in a room full of boxes with some dude/dudette you don't even know, pat yourself on the back. You were legally emancipated when you turned 18 (and if you're not 18 yet, consider this an early birthday present), but now that you're at school, you're realistically emancipated. Unless your parents move into the house next door, they have no idea what you're doing. You are in charge of when you go to class, if you go to class, when you eat, when you sleep, and what you do for fun.

This is the best feeling in the world. It can also be the complete and utter downfall of life as you know it.

You're now on your own. Because you are at Hopkins in the first place, there is a decent possibility that the necessary self-motivation to function on your own is already somewhat present. But then again, there are a frightening number of brilliant people in this world,

not a small percentage of whom happen to be at Hopkins, who don't have the first clue about what to do once they're high-school free.

This article is not a cure-all. If it were, I would actually be making money. But with a little advice and that speck of common sense that has been cowering in your frontal lobe for the past four years, you will not be a CRAP (Confused and Royally Anti-social Premed). Guaranteed.

First — Go to the Orientation Events. Not all of them, but a lot of them. Dancing like a chicken is ridiculous and embarrassing, but when a few hundred other kids are doing the exact same thing, no one is going to care. Really. Besides, it's not as if you could do any better on Club Night. The events were planned to give you a better grasp on what's at stake when you get to school, how to deal with issues that will ultimately come up, and — gasp — how to interact with other human beings. Listen up and dance.

Second — Listen to your Academic Advisor. This particular faculty member doesn't and will never know you from the next advisee, but as far as a source of Random Useful Information, they will have to do. If you have any idea where you want to end up in four years, listen to them when they tell you what to take. Keep the papers they give you. Don't listen too carefully, lest you end up in a field you don't want to study. But pay some attention. While they don't know who you are, they know more than you do.

Third — Don't have your life planned out already. There is nothing

more annoying than furthering the assumption that all Hopkins students get to school, plow through four years doing exactly what they're told, and are then shipped off to med school. It will not kill you or your potential career to take a class in something wildly outside of your major. You only get these chances once in your life. Take advantage of it.

And fourth — Get out from behind your computer. The school wouldn't plan events if it would rather you study right through them. You don't have parents telling you that you can't go out, so live it up! We are steadily chipping away at the stereotype that Hopkins students don't go to events and don't have any school

spirit. As a new, un-jaded class of freshmen, you are the forefront of that change. So get your work done early.

And then get out.

So unpack your underwear, turn on your lava lamp, put up your posters and take a look around. These will be the four most memorable years of your life. What kind of memories you want to make are up to you, and that should be a thrilling and somewhat scary thing. But

don't psych yourself out, or you'll become either an alcoholic or a D-Level-dwelling evil elf. We have enough evil elves here to go around already, thank you very much.

Welcome to Johns Hopkins. You'll be fine.

*It will not kill you or  
your potential career to  
take a class in  
something wildly  
outside of your major.*

## WAYS TO WATCH YOUR BACK

Since Hopkins is an urban campus, you should be aware of a few simple security measures that can keep you safe on the streets:

**Be aware of your surroundings.** Use lighted walkways and visually survey the area. If something seems fishy, head to a populated area or call 911 or Hopkins Security (516-7777).

**Take the security shuttle** (516-8700) at night, even if you are travel-

ing in a group. Don't accept rides from strangers, even if they claim to be Hopkins students.

**Use on-campus ATMs** whenever possible.

But don't be afraid to leave your room — it's really not as bad as it seems. If you're careful and use common sense, you should have no problem exploring the Baltimore nightlife.



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

President Brody greets freshman Maxi Sherman on his Segway scooter.

# The Essential Hopkins: 21 things you just gotta do before graduation

By Ishai Mooreville

Four years is not a long time. In fact, when you consider that many people live well into their eighties and nineties, four years can go by as fast as a suburban kid running from a busted house party.

That's why the next four (or more) years that you spend on this campus should be lived to the fullest, and that doesn't mean trying to achieve the elusive 4.0 GPA.

Making the most of your time can mean anything from taking a class in something you know nothing about to running naked through the library during the middle of finals period.

*Just because they're graduate students doesn't mean they couldn't use a little tender lovin' now and again.*

However you choose to spend your college years, they have the potential to be one of the most defining periods of your life.

So here is a short list on how to get the most bang for your buck out of Hopkins. But the things you actually end up doing is entirely up to you.

## 1. Get in touch with your inner Corey Feldman and try out for a play.

At one point, we all wanted to be movie stars. Acting in a play is the next best thing for all you aspiring Ben Afflecks and J.Lo's. For those with any acting aspirations, try out for the Barnstormers or Witness Theater productions. And don't worry if you can't act: neither could Ah-nuld and now he's slated to be the next governor of California.

## 2. Take a writing seminars class.

Many of you didn't know this before applying to Hopkins, but it has

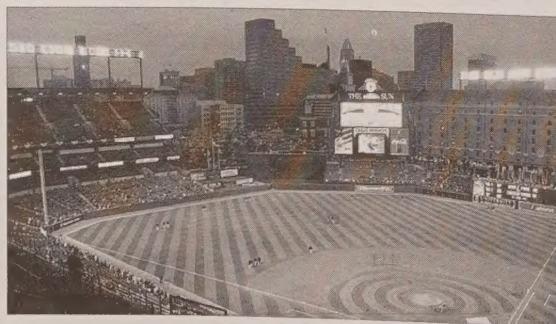
one of the best creative writing programs in the country. Classes are usually carried out through workshops where students critique the work of fellow classmates. From Tristan Davies to Stephen Dixon, the department's professors can help you tap into your inner Hemingway. Just don't think you actually *are* the next Hemingway.

## 3. Camp out on the roof of Bloomberg for a night.

On top of our astronomically sized physics building (get it?) is a gem of a hangout. If you ascend the four stairs, you will find a rooftop viewing deck complete with a barn-sized telescope. While the view of north Baltimore is less than spectacular, laying down a blanket and looking up at shooting stars with a natty light in your hand just might inspire you. It's also a perfect place to get funky with a significant other.

## 4. Use cafeteria trays to go sledding.

The hill next to Bloomberg is best for trying this age-old college pastime. Make sure you acquire your cafeteria tray the night before snowfall since security gets tight after a storm. To reach maximum speeds on the slope, sit on the tray and go down feet first, keeping your feet elevated. Those craving more dan-



VADIM GRETCHOUCHKIN/NEWS-LETTER  
**Catch a foul ball during an Orioles game at Camden Yards.**

ger can go down head first or try it blind-folded; you won't have been the first. Just be sure to watch out for the trees.

## 5. Show your ass to a visiting tour.

Seeing the bare ass of a young co-

ed is the best way to attract future generations of Hopkins students. Don't believe me? For what it's worth, it happened to me and I came here.

## 6. Have a conversation with our University President, William Brody.

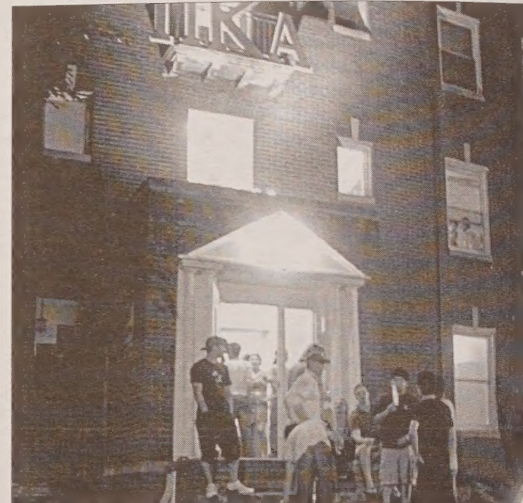
David Lee Roth he isn't. But when he's not busy hopping around the globe and running the multi-billion dollar empire that is Johns Hopkins, he still is ultimately responsible for making this institution work well. So the next time you see El Presidente, give him your two cents on what could be done to improve the place. Just don't be concerned if he doesn't blink.

## 7. Go to a Hopkins vs. Princeton lacrosse game at Homewood Field.

Any match-up between these two powerhouses is an instant classic. There might be nothing more gratifying than the faces of preppy Ivy-leaguers who have just been spanked by the sweet stick skills of the Blue Jays. And even if we do lose, PRINCETON STILL SUCKS!

## 8. Catch a glimpse of Michael Bloomberg.

Now that he's mayor of the big city, he's not around as often as he used to. And after he gave the commencement speech at graduation last May, there's no telling when the bil-



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

## Rekindle your social life at a fraternity party.

lionaire may be back. It gets harder every year, but you can't call yourself a true Hopkins student until you have actually stared this man straight in the eyes. It's impossible to look away. A perfect introduction to the legend is provided in the aptly titled biography *Bloomberg* by Bloomberg.

## 9. Order Falafel at Uni-Mini.

Most Hopkins students prefer Royal Farms' fried chicken, but there's something to be said for the middle-eastern delicacy that is both thoroughly satisfying and maybe even a little bit healthy. If you haven't had your weekly dose of chick-pea, it's hard to say you really understand middle eastern politics. Falafel also serves as a perfect compliment to the hookah, also conveniently available at Uni-Mini in several different colors and designs.

## 10. Attempt to interact with students from other Baltimore colleges.

When you get annoyed that your roommate seems to understand more about theoretical physics than personal hygiene, head over to one of Baltimore's less brainy and more attractive colleges. Loyola, Towson, CONDOM, Goucher and even MICA offer up a plethora of students who might bring something different to the table. You won't be disappointed with what you'll see.

And it's so much healthier to have a relationship with someone who doesn't live across the hall.



NATHAN BATES/FILE PHOTO

Try visiting Loyola, or other colleges in the area, to check out the studs.

### 11. Seduce a TA.

Just because they're graduate students doesn't mean they couldn't use a little tender lovin' now and again. Make sure it's clear to them before the hanky panky that you expect to receive an A+ for your lack of work. And the less English they speak, the better the sex.

### 12. Attend a fraternity party.

Now I doubt that any of you will have a problem fulfilling this requirement. Yes, they will get boring and repetitive once you realize that too many bodies cramped into a loud, over-heated, dark basement isn't as

Although it attracts the occasional homeless person, the Hut is one of the premiere study venues on a campus that loves to study. One night during your freshman year, you'll find yourself with less than 8 hours to study for a test in a class you never bothered to attend. This is where the Hut will come in handy. Make sure you bring plenty of caffeine and change for the candy-machine because it's going to be a long night. And don't sit on one of those comfy sofa chairs unless you intend to fall asleep.

### 14. Take CIP (Contemporary International Politics).

Before we can attain world peace, we have to understand Kenneth Waltz's three levels of analysis. Not only is Steven David among the best lecturers on campus, he is also a true advocate of the Hopkins undergraduate.

### 15. Go to an Orioles game at Camden Yards.

Baseball was meant to be watched this way. Camden Yards is an intimate ballpark that allows any spectator to enjoy a game, even if you don't like baseball. And even though it can no longer be called America's pastime (reading *Maxim* replaced it), there is nothing more magical than seeing a sold-out crowd sing the national anthem in perfect unison. Go O's!

### 16. Grab a bite to eat at the Hopkins Club.

It's supposed to be for faculty and alumni only, but do Terrace or Wolman have waiters in tuxedos and menu items like smoked salmon or chocolate

mousse?

### 17. Play late night Frisbee on the quad.

Throwing a flying object in the dark may seem counter-intuitive, but it actually provides for a much more entertaining game. Just watch out for the large light posts in the middle of the fields.

### 18. Get into a serious relationship.

Isn't that why you came to college in the first place? To find that true love that you've always been looking for? It may surprise you, but Hopkins has a relatively high rate for marriages between alumni. You could run into your future spouse the next time you actually show up in section, so remain alert.

But even if you don't find that special someone, jump into the raging waters and test the field. To quote the Beatles, "In the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make."

### 19. See a midnight production of the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

Once you've seen Rocky Horror, you'll never be the same.

Put on once a semester by the students of our fine university, there is no equivalent to seeing the live-action accompaniment to the classic film about love and drag that stars Susan Sarandon and that guy from the Pepsi

They're not quite Baltimore city cops, and they're not just glorified security guards. They're real people who spend every day making this campus safer for you and me.

So if you have a spare minute and you see one walking by, say hello and strike up a conversation. You never know when that connection might come back to help you.

### 21. Write for the News-Letter.

Yeah, I admit it's a shameless plug and a juvenile exercise in self-advertising. But if you can't get that cherished publication into the Journal of Neuroscience or Quantum Physics, there's nothing that impresses grad

... Hopkins has a relatively high rate for marriages between alumni. You could run into your future spouse the next time you actually show up in section.



FILE PHOTO

A life without the Rocky Horror Picture Show? Why, it's no Hopkins life at all.

commercials. Just watch out for the kid who plays Dr. Frankenfurter.

### 20. Become friends with the Hop Cops.

schools more than a couple of by-lines in this grand ol' rag we call a newspaper. Check out our open house next Monday, September 8 at 7 p.m.

WELCOME

N-L

*So the next time you see El Presidente, give him your two cents on what could be done to improve the place. Just don't be concerned if he doesn't blink.*

glamorous as it seems. But if you were thinking of trying to go through Hopkins without giving it a whirl, think again.

You'd be surprised how much you can learn about yourself and your friends from one hazy night at Phi Psi.

### 13. Spend an all-nighter at the Hut.

# The seal: not just an animal at the zoo

By Claire Koehler

So now you are at Johns Hopkins University for the next four years of your life ... if you don't step on the sacred seal.

What? You don't know what I'm talking about? Well then you don't know what a mythological school Hopkins is. Even though we're only 127 years old, we have as many myths and cool facts as any of those old ivies.

The sacred seal of JHU is located in the foyer of Gilman Hall. It has our motto in Latin which means "the truth will set you free." It is meant to emphasize the importance of research and the value of discovering the truth on your own. Hopkins' first president, Daniel Coit Gilman, started a revolutionary shift in higher education in the United States when he modeled Hopkins on the European research model of study.

Gilman's philosophy was that students should be free to select, under guidance, their courses of study and professors should be free of routine; research and teaching should supplement each other. In fact, Hopkins was the first research university in the United States and it remains No. 1 today.

But back to the seal; the myth states if step on it, you will not graduate from JHU in four years. Prospective students who step on the seal won't be admitted to the University. So watch out!

Hopkins' second president and first president of chemistry, Ira Remsen, was also interested in research and has the distinction of having the chemistry building, Remsen Hall, named after him.

Remsen also has the honor of being the only man buried on campus. His ashes are interred behind a plaque in the building and, legend has it, if you rub the plaque you will do better on your chemistry test — so all you freshmen take notice. (Unfortunately didn't find out about this bit of luck until after

I took Intro Chem).

Another myth states if you remove Remsen's ashes and the plaque, Remsen Hall will fall down.

If you haven't already figured it out, you are going to spend tons of time in the library. Good thing it's fit for a president. Yep, our library is named for yet another University president, Milton S. Eisenhower, who was president of JHU when his brother Dwight was president of the United States.

There is a myth that President Gilman stipulated in his will that there were to be no buildings on campus taller than his, so the library goes five levels *below* quad level (M, A, B, C and D).

Actually, the library goes further in the ground than planned because the engineers forgot about the weight of the books and the library sank three inches into the ground after they were put in. Don't worry though — they weren't Hopkins Engineers! There's another myth that if you're getting an A you study on level A, etc....

But before you think Hopkins is all about presidents and professors and buildings named after them, consider some fun facts taken from the Hopkins world of sports.

First, there is a building on campus that is actually named after an athlete: Garland Hall. Charles Garland, former member of the Board of Trustees, was a noted tennis player who became the first American to win a doubles championship at Wimbledon in 1920.

And then, of course, there's the Lacrosse Olympic story. In 1928 and 1932 lacrosse was an Olympic sport, and instead of assembling an all-star team, the U.S. Olympic Committee voted to send the JHU Lacrosse team to the Olympic Games to represent the United States. Hopkins won the gold both times.

Here are a few last fun facts to leave you froshes with: founded in 1878, the JHU Press is the oldest, continuously operating university press in the United

States; the Hopkins medical facility introduced in the use of rubber gloves during surgery in 1889; JHU took the first color photograph of the whole earth from space in 1967; the creator of *Nightmare before Christmas* and *Scream*, Wes Craven, is an alumnus of Johns Hopkins; Wolman Hall was once the home of F. Scott Fitzgerald and wife Zelda before Hopkins took control of

the building and spent \$30 million to renovate it; the only U.S. President to earn a doctoral degree is Woodrow Wilson, who earned his Ph.D. in History at Johns Hopkins in 1886; Wilson also began the Debate Society at Hopkins.

Now go out and make your own history so that a future Cover-Letter can have a fun fact about you ... provided you don't step on the seal.

## What a difference three years make

By Ron Demeter

Let me take you back to a time before the Mattin center, before the Recreation center, before Hodson Hall and long before Levering Hall was made over by the *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* gurus. Come back with me to the year 2000, my freshman year. It's hard enough to believe I am finally a senior, but what is even more remarkable is the changes Hopkins has made toward advancing student life.

When I first arrived at Hopkins, the Mattin Center was in development, the weight room was situated on a racquetball court and tractor-trailers littered a campus that looked more like a war zone than a university. During my freshman year, all the seniors looked back with fondness at what Hopkins used to be. Now, seniors wonder how we ever survived our freshman year without all of these luxuries.

Have you ever heard of Merryman Hall? If you haven't, you don't want to know. Originally a temporary structure built during World War II, Merryman stood where Hodson is now. A cute, quaint, but dilapidated little building, Merryman used to house Academic Advising and the Counseling Center. Unique as it was, Garland Hall is a much better fit for both, and Hodson fits right in with the rest of this pristine campus.

The field situated on the freshman quad was in an entirely different state. There was no grass and no area to play Frisbee. In fact, it was fenced off and filled with bulldozers and massive amounts of dirt. Living in the AMR's, we would wake up every morning to the sound of jackhammers. There's nothing worse than waking up to a chorus of construction every day.

The lawn in front of the freshman quad wasn't the only fenced-off part of campus. Because the master plan called for covering just about every walkway with bricks, both the Upper and Lower Quad fields were blocked off. The campus had no grass, tons of machinery and probably led to a decline in the number of people applying to Hopkins.

There was no shiny new recreation center in which to lift weights, run, or play basketball. There was only the Athletic Center, the older building that you will probably set foot in about five times in your college career. The basketball courts had to be shared with the varsity teams. So if a team had a practice, they would just boot you off the court. The weight room was a downright crime against humanity, consisting of two racquetball courts. The rusty equipment included only free weights with one lateral pull.

The area in front of Levering in between Garland and the lower quad was not an area to relax and hang out. It was instead a loading dock for Gilman Hall

*The weight room was a downright crime against humanity, consisting of two racquetball courts. The rusty equipment included only free weights with one lateral pull.*

where trucks would pull in. Only last year did the University close off the area and make it accessible for pedestrians.

Those of you in the freshmen class are probably not aware of how fortunate you are. If you think student life isn't up to par, just look to the past. Don't listen to anyone saying, "back then it was so much better." Frankly, it wasn't. Hopkins, like any other university, is what you make of it. Now you have more tools with which to construct a better college experience.



VADIM GRETCHOVSKIN/NEWS-LETTER

A brazen Hopkins student steps over the sacred seal in Gilman Hall.

The meeting of two personalities is like the contact of two chemical substances: if there is any reaction, both are transformed.

— Carl Jung

## Fun times and new furry friends

*You might get infested with mice, but the AMRs are the best place to live freshman year.*



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

**Freshman Whitney Davis handles her guitar with care in her new AMR room. She will probably be one of many guitarists strumming away on the quad.**

**By Ishai Mooreville**

One of the most amazing and frustrating things about college is learning to live with someone you have never met before in a very limited amount of space.

The AMR dormitories were built to take full advantage of this principle.

Constructed decades ago when Hopkins was still an all-male school (hence the urinals in the women's bathrooms), the AMRs have never been known for their architectural majesty. But their designer clearly understood how to get first year students to interact with each other, regardless of whether or not they wanted to.

With long halls full of doubles and singles, it's impossible to avoid social contact at any time of day or night. And that's a good thing, because if nothing else, college is about meeting new people

and finding out how many times a day (or week) they like to clean themselves.

It's normal for most residents of the AMRs to leave their doors open, some even when they're out or sleeping. This has two benefits: first, it serves as an open invitation for passersby to come visit, and two, it allows you to see hotties (male or female, depending on your

persuasion) walking to and from the showers in next to nothing.

Entire books could be written about the intricate dynamics of human interaction that result when people who have lived their whole lives with their parents suddenly find themselves living with complete strangers.

It can be a little unnerving at first, and it takes some getting used to, but eventually, somewhere in the middle of October, you'll begin to wonder how you ever lived before you got to school.

*Walk the hallways of the AMRs on any weekday or weekend night, and you're bound to find plenty of adventures and conversations.*

Walk the hallways of the AMRs on any weekday or weekend night, and you're bound to find plenty of adventures and conversations. From shaving cream fights and hallway hockey to drinking games, monopoly and movies, it's hard not to have a good time.

Those of you with roommates will learn more about them than you ever wanted to. The type of music they listen to, what they like to look at on the internet, how often they call their parents, what's funny to them, what annoys them and whether they sleep in pajamas or naked.

Even if you and your roommate are completely different people, you'll find yourselves talking about the most personal things when it's late at night, the lights are off, and you both can't fall asleep. My roommate and I could go on for hours like this before one of us got sick of the other and would ask for complete silence.

The only drawback to the AMRs is that during your stay, you will lose any and all notion of privacy. If you happen to bring a girl or guy back to your room and your roommate is already asleep,

you're either have to hit the quad (watch out for Hop Cops) or just hope that the roomie doesn't wake up.

With their cozy (cramped) spaces and simple (aging) furniture, the rooms of the AMRs demonstrate a certain simplicity that borders on genius.

Take advantage of the one window you have and make sure you blast classic rock in the early afternoon as your peers return from class. You'll want them to know that you didn't even wake up for your 10 a.m. class and you've been chillin' all day in the dorms while they fell asleep in their chemistry section.

Most nights you'll find it hard to turn away from all the distractions, the conversations, the music, the homework and everything else before you finally shut the lights off and hit the sack.

That first night you lay in your bed and realize you're not in Kansas anymore is an empowering feeling. For the first time in your life you have complete independence and no one to tell you what to do. Enjoy.



PHOTO BY NATHAN BATES/NEWS-LETTER

**Lucky freshmen descend the ominous steps from their third-floor rooms.**

# Greek life: a most patriotic thing to do

An insider's guide to the whole fraternity scene, rush week and the pledging process

By Jeff Katzenstein

It's your first week at Hopkins and you've probably already seen the many fraternity houses around the neighborhood. Perhaps you've even gone inside some of them and met some of the brothers. If you browsed through any of the literature on the campus social scene, you may have also realized that one in five Hopkins students are involved in Greek life. At Hopkins, fraternities and sororities are dominant on the social scene, especially among freshmen.

But if you are anything like I was when I first got here last year, there are many important questions you wished you had the answers to. What are fraternities all about, anyway? Am I a likely candidate to pledge a fraternity at Hopkins? Other than the obvious social scene, why do people pledge fraternities anyway? How does rushing and pledging work? Here's the low-down on some things you should know about fraternities at Hopkins.

Students decide to pledge fraternities for many different reasons. For some, the ties of brotherhood that are found within the organization make the Hopkins experience amazing and the ties as alumni invaluable. For others, reasons include the obvious draw of enhanced social life, helpful connections with other chapters nationwide or even simply being part of something that may improve them as people during their years at Hopkins.

People become brothers through two processes: rushing and pledging. Formal rush for freshmen takes place during spring semester, as every fraternity on campus holds a week-long rush program in order to get to know freshmen and so the freshmen can find what each fraternity is all about.

Towards the end of rush, each fraternity decides which rushes (the people who rushed) they want as potential brothers. If a fraternity decides that they want someone as a potential brother, they will give him a formal bid, which is an offer to pledge the fraternity. Many students get bids from more than one fraternity, and then must decide which one they would like to pledge.

If the rush accepts the bid, he begins a pledge program with all the other rushes who were given bids. Pledging usually takes one semester and is designed to build brotherhood and knowledge of the history of the fraternity.

The difficulty of pledging varies from fraternity to fraternity. Some pride

themselves in their difficult pledging programs, while others feel that an easier pledge program is the way to go. Either way, you won't be attaching 30lb. cinder blocks to certain parts of your body and dropping them off the roof.

At the end of the pledge process, brothers decide on which pledges they would like to initiate as brothers of the fraternity.

Here at Hopkins, as with many things, there are also some people who are vehemently against Greek life. My suggestion, as with many other things at Hopkins, is to give Greek life a chance before getting caught up in negativity.

In fact, if you think about it, nothing could be more unpatriotic than bad-mouthing fraternities. According to the classic cultural art film *Animal House*:

"You can't hold a whole fraternity responsible for the behavior of a few, sick twisted individuals. For if you do, then shouldn't we blame the whole fraternity system? And if the whole fraternity system is guilty, then isn't this an indictment of our educational institutions in general? I put it to you, Greg — isn't this an indictment of our entire American society? Well, you can do whatever you want to us, but we're not going to sit here and listen to you badmouth the United States of America."

If rushing does sound like something you may want to try and you're a freshman, you're going to have to wait until second semester to do so. If you're a sophomore and didn't get a chance to participate in rush last year, I highly suggest that you do. As a freshman coming to Hopkins, I never pictured myself as the fraternity "type." I found out how wrong I was during the first night of rush week.

To me, not participating in any rush events, no matter what year you are, is the worst choice you could possibly make. But hey, if you love Terrace and Wolman food, don't like to meet new people and hate having fun, then by all means, stay in front of your computer, posting messages all day on the Daily Jolt. If you find after participating in rush that fraternity life is not for you, no harm done.

The best way for you to know what each fraternity is about is to go out to some parties and meet brothers yourself. There are plenty of fraternities to choose from, and you're sure to find one that fits you.

## Where to get drunk and learn Greek

News-Letter Staff

### Alpha Delta Phi

Here it is: the closest thing JHU gets to a state school frat. Composed mostly of football and other sports team members, WaWa has the reputation for being absolutely wild. They'll soon be at another location. Their parties are huge, and they usually boast plenty of fine ladies.

### Alpha Epsilon Pi

This is the traditionally Jewish fraternity at Hopkins and they've made a name for themselves on the social scene. AEPi has been attracting huge crowds of freshmen into the wee hours throughout the weekend. Be sure to check out their annual "Night of 1,000 Jello Shots."

### Beta Theta Pi

Last we heard, this frat had five guys in it and was being thrown out of the IFC. If you end up at one of their parties, give us a call.

### Lambda Phi Epsilon

This is the traditionally Asian fraternity at Hopkins. While their membership is small, they throw a few major parties every semester. They host a number of dancing-intensive bashes downtown during the year.

### Pi Kappa Alpha

Pike has the closest house to campus, so walking there isn't much of a trek. They're known for their spacious basement and more recently have thrown outdoor parties in their yard.

The Pikes throw big parties, but they have a tendency to get in trouble with cops and other fraternities. Even if they're not throwing one of their bigger bashes like the annual Piketoberfest or Margaritaville, if you walk past the house and see brothers on the stoop there's probably something going on.

### Sigma Phi Epsilon

The red door on their house on 29th St. is a campus staple. Every year they have a big 1980s-themed party, as well as a "Purple Haze" bash. Although they're known for their laid back atmosphere, their Heaven and

Hell party is one of the most scandalous bashes on campus.

### Sigma Alpha Mu

As with all other smaller frat parties, Sammy is a great place to go and get liquored up relatively cheap, without the hassle of fighting through a sea of people to get to the bar.

### Sigma Chi Sigma

Sigma Chi Sigma is a petitioning local chapter of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. As the newest addition to Greek Life, they've thrown some parties and club nights and are trying to build a tight brotherhood.

### Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Their house, on the corner of 30th St. and St. Paul Street, is another highly visible campus location. It's also pretty loud because of the kickin' parties that go on there.

Their basement may be filthy, but join them for its yearly cleaning at the foam party.

### Phi Gamma Delta

Fiji boys use a lot of peroxide, that's for sure. But they're a big partying frat. Though their national declared all chapters dry a few months ago, don't expect these boys to settle down. That's what party houses are for.

These boys are pretty exclusive except when they throw their campus bash in the President's Garden on Homecoming.

### Phi Kappa Psi

This was Bloomberg's fraternity when he went here. But there's more to Phi Psi than famous alumni. The guys are really laid back and pretty cool. Their house is amazing, but it's a haul. Their annual beach party features a live band, 10 tons of sand and coconut bikinis. Just don't bother them at 4:20 because they might be ... um ... busy.

### Delta Phi (St. Elmo's)

This non-IFC fraternity has an affinity for throwing upscale, catered parties. You'll probably get an invitation to their back to school party.

Their numbers are small, and people generally think of Elmo's as an exclusive social club. But their parties draw huge crowds.



# Sing the praises of sorority sisterhood

By Supria Ranade

Sorority life at Hopkins is another way for females to get involved in campus activities. Despite the rumors of ditsy girls, bubblegum-popping blondes and shopping at the mall, JHU sorority life can offer a rewarding and unique experience, along with lasting college friendships. Just ask any of the 300 sisters on this campus.

There are many ways to meet the sisters and decide which sorority is right for you. During the fall semester, the four main sororities at Hopkins (Phi Mu, Alpha Phi, Kappa Alpha Theta, and Kappa Kappa Gamma) hold events such as ice-cream socials, parties and other activities for freshman and other interested students to gain a perspective on sorority life.

Two very active voices on campus, even though they are not chartered, are the Asian interest sororities Kappa Delta Phi and the newly established Sigma Omicron Pi. With their own twists on the bonds of sisterhood, these sororities celebrate the same values as the others, but the sisters share similar culture as well.

Kappa Delta Phi and Sigma Omicron Pi also keep close contact with their brother fraternities, planning events together and establishing a "Big brother, little sister" program.

Keep a constant lookout for flyers, tables at the SAC fair, and announcements for upcoming events.

During the spring semester, the much-awaited 'rush season' begins in early February, and any girl interested in sorority life can become a part of this event.

Rush is an intense three days, where girls get to meet all of the sisters of all sororities through evening parties. After the first day, the new girls are able to pick three of the four sororities to which they would like to be 'called back' to, and continue to narrow down from there.

On the fourth day, called Bid Day, the girls who rushed can see which sorority they received a bid from and decide whether or not they would like to pledge for that semester.

After 'rush week' ends, pledge semester begins. Although each sorority operates differently, pledging consists of different events involving the whole sorority at different times of the day.

These events are geared toward acquainting the freshman pledges with each other, as well as the rest of the sorority.

One of the benefits of joining a Hopkins sorority is that, if a girl decides that she does not want to be a part, she can drop at anytime. If the member decides that sorority life really is her thing, she can continue on to become an official sister.

Sororities have much more to offer

than partying. Among many activities they partake in, sororities are strongly affiliated with community service and charity organizations.

Raising money for numerous causes

is an important component of sorority life. The House of Ruth, Children's Hospital, and the Special Olympics Committee are a few of the organizations for which sisters raise money.

Sorority life can be a rewarding choice. To see if this part of Hopkins is right for you, try rushing in the beginning of spring semester. It will be an experience you will never forget.

CAMPUS LIFE  
N-L

## You Won't Believe What You'll Find At

# COMICS KINGDOM

3998A Roland Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21211  
410.889.6005

New & Classic Comics  
Trade Paperbacks &  
Graphic Novels  
Unique Toys & Gifts

Anime & Manga, Independents

Used Books, Buffy Section, Crossgen Retailer

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

11-7 Monday thru Friday

11-6 Saturday

1 block west of the Rotunda

## NEW & EXCITING EVENTS!

We now carry **BELLYDANCE APPAREL!**

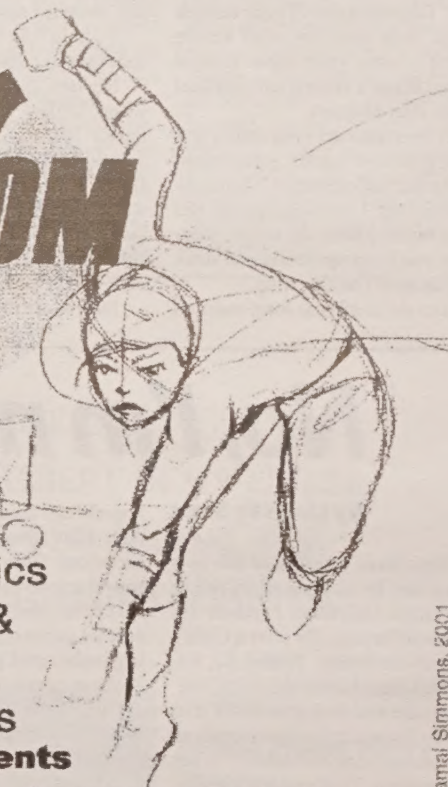
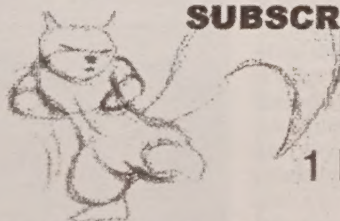
**10% OFF ALL TPs and GRAPHIC NOVELS**

**in SEPTEMBER with VALID STUDENT ID!**

**SIGNING on Wednesday, Sept. 18th for One Plus One**

**5 - 7PM with Daniel Krall (a) & Neal Shaffer (w)**

All work copyrighted by Kofi Jamaal Simmons, 2001



# When home's a long way away

*Dealing with the trials, tribulations and tears of missing good old Mom and Dad*

By Francesca Hansen

Homesickness is a predictable epidemic and a waste of time. After approximately a month and a half, an emotional storm cloud descends over the AMRs. Even the most exuberant Hopkins students find a reason to mope a little and be homesick; this dull emotional pain has stricken even the proudest of us. Suddenly you find yourself talking about home like it was a tropical getaway. The sidewalks of your suburb glisten in your memory, that smelly hairy dog is now your most faithful friend and Mom's vegetarian meatloaf looks like Filet Mignon.

When the nights get even colder and the work gets even harder, some might even make that half-desperate phone call, quietly whining: "I wanna go home." But despite sympathy from the empty-nesters, when you hang up, you're still stuck on campus until Thanksgiving.

What to do until that long-awaited

Thursday in November? Deal with it.

College is not a time to be wallowing in homesick self-pity. College is the great beyond, the threshold to adulthood without all that obnoxious responsibility. The food is better at home, the laundry is free, and everything is cozy and warm. But all you're really missing is clean sheets. The benefits of college life far outweigh any sadness about home. Honestly, if your family and friends forget you by Thanksgiving, shop for some new ones.

To help take this step forward, let's sum up why college is better than home:

No one cares where you are and when. Unless you manage to score a Saran Wrap significant other, you should be free to amble about campus freely. If you really need to inform the world that you'll be back before a certain time, you can always tell your roommates. They may even pretend to care for the first few weeks.

Dorms are inevitably more exciting

than home. Hearing screams coming from down the hall would make you worried at home, but in the dorms, it's just another Saturday night. Should any disturbances in the dorm turn up, they'll most likely become good stories to tell. A mouse can create a suite coalition to conquer the terrorist threat and give you target practice. Fire alarms can mean a great mingling opportunity with your building buddies. Your hair would look better washed without warm water, anyway.

What exactly would you be doing at home? You got yourself into (lest we be elitist) one of the best universities in the country, and you can do a lot with your time here if you get off your bed and stop looking longingly at a picture of your dog.

If you absolutely feel you need some family, just look around. Your friends and classmates can be some of the best support you could ask for. Someone to hold your hair back, to make a run to

Royal Farms with, to camp out at the library with ... friends from college often are your friends for life and, for a frighteningly large percentage of Hopkins grads, their partner for life.

Get some chutzpah and explore Baltimore. From the Walters Museum and Mount Vernon to Little Italy to exploring certain neighborhoods in large groups during the day, Baltimore is anything but boring. No matter how great your hometown may be, it's still not the "Greatest City in America."

So don't dream of living your home experience again; live the Hopkins experience to the fullest. Even engineers have fun every once in a while. Or if fun reminds you too much of home, go discover a star or research cancer or conduct some other sadomasochistic Hopkins research. Make Milton S. Eisenhower your best friend if you don't want a new one. Just give the family portrait one last loving pat and stop wasting time.

## No, I'm not pregnant ... I'm sick

By Lindsay Saxe

The first three months of life as a freshman can be compared to riding Cedar Point's *Millennium Force* or Six Flags' *Freefall* repeatedly after a Chili's all-you-can-eat buffet. Truthfully, between drinking, classes, drinking, eating at Terrace and trying to make it to class, even the most hardcore student will have at least one breakdown in her immune system. That's why it's so important for everyone to get to know the friendly staff at the Student Health and Wellness Center (SHWC). They have information on whatever rash, cough, uncomfortable feeling or strange ailment you've, eh hem, somehow acquired, their help is confidential and they generously give out free condoms to all who walk in the door.

Oh, but that's only the beginning. The newest additions to the SHWC service roster include a Relaxation CD Library, online refills of birth control and the Student Health Advisory Committee. Students who find they are stressed about classes, their newest frat-fling, etc. can borrow CDs such as *Natural Tranquilizers*, a collection of relaxation mantras touted as "an alternative stress break to alcohol, medications or cigarettes." Some of the other titles include *Calm Down* and *Warm and Heavy*. I'll leave it to you to check these out.

Students can also refill birth control pills, OrthoEvra patches and

NuvaRings online. You must be a student who already receives these prescriptions from the SHWC, and you must be up to date on your gynecological exams. Not on birth control? Want a more convenient alternative to having mom send your pills in the mail? Make an appointment with SHWC and get started as one of their patients. It doesn't take that long, and trust me, it's totally confidential.

Alright, enough of women's health and onto the rest of the SHWC. Students who have a serious interest in Public Health and are interested in getting involved in student health initiatives here at Hopkins should apply to the Student Health Advisory Committee. As members of the committee, students will help make health policy decisions, assist in planning health-related events, serve as a voice for fellow students and work with Hopkins Health Care Professionals. Plus, it's great experience for all you wanna-be doctors. For more information, check out <http://www.jhu.edu/~shcenter/shac.html>.

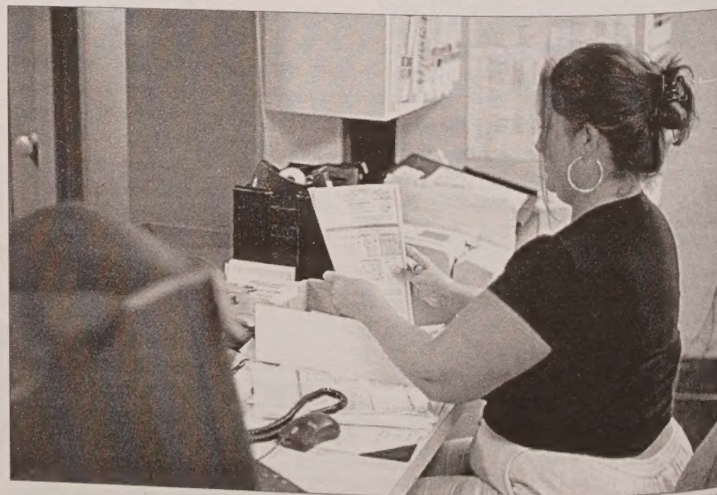
Also at the SHWC Web site are helpful student pages that can be viewed in the privacy of your own dorm room. They have informative links such as an Online Self-Care Guide for Students, Stress Management and a dossier on the West Nile Virus and meningitis. The Self-Care Guide gives students a glossary of common ailments, symp-

toms and whom to contact when you think you need help. It also gives some basic, and somewhat parental, lifestyle guides, which I imagine are probably common sense habits most students choose to disregard at this time in their lives.

Here's the basic information every student should know: the SHWC is located just outside Terrace Dining Hall, behind a big white door in the AMRII building. Appointments can be made rather quickly (from my experience) by calling 6-8270. If your situation is very urgent, they have a doctor on call

24/7. You can also call security at 6-4777 and they will contact the on-call physician. Some appointments can be scheduled on Saturday, but the staff is limited, so you may have to wait for the following week. Their hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. most days, and they are closed on Sunday.

For enrolled students, there is no charge for office visits, but prescriptions and lab tests will cost you more, depending on your private health insurance rates. Students may also use money on their JCards to pay for prescriptions at the SHWC.



Shawn Kelley of the Health and Wellness center reviews medical records. NATHAN BATES/NEWS-LETTER

# How to eat at Hopkins and not die

*After years of trying to revamp the meal plan, they just might get it right this time*

By Gina Callahan

I never liked my mother's/father's/brother's cooking enough to miss it when I arrived at college. I was rarely home at dinnertime during high school either, not that my family ever really sat together to eat that often anyway. And truthfully, though I'm a picky vegetarian, I'm usually satisfied with a salad and peanut butter smeared on something. So that said, I figured pre-arrival at JHU that I'd survive just about any meal plan. In fact, I'm probably more anxious now about being off the Hopkins feeding program and fending for myself starting this fall. I'm also curious to see how you froshies and sophomores will fare on the new meal plan and a little jealous of some new dining options.

So you've heard of the "freshman 15," been warned about mystery meatloaf—now, for your reading and dining pleasure, here's your guide to surviving the brand-spanking new JHU meal plan. But remember, if you find that it just doesn't work out for you, you're always welcome to join me for PBJ.

**The Specifics and Changes:** Those of you in campus housing that requires purchase of a meal plan will serve as guinea pigs for a new system this fall. Your vocabulary will include words like "block" and "point" instead of those like "meal equiv" and "rip off." Formerly, students at JHU were required to enroll in at least a 14-meal/week plan if they resided in the majority of housing options. These 14 meals were used during specified breakfast, lunch and dinner time slots and could be exchanged for "equivalent" purchases at MegaBytes, the Depot and, by second semester last year, again at Levering.

Now students have more plan options and buy nourishment in the form of blocks, or meals that can be used at all-you-can-eat establishments, Terrace and Wolman, and points, worth about a dollar each, that can be spent at the school's convenience locations, MegaBytes, the Depot and Levering. Freshmen are required to enroll in at least a 150 block/500 point per semester plan and sophomores must select at least the 125/600 option.

Students also have the choice of a constant meal pass that entitles them to each as many times a day in the dining halls as they'd like and throws in 200 points for good measure. Each of these plans also includes guest meal passes, and unused points carry over from first to second semester (although blocks do not).

**Wolman and Terrace** have undergone changes aimed at creating more of a market place ambiance, according to Senior Director of Housing and Dining Carol Mohr. Students will see more of

their meals prepared in front of them and will even have the opportunity to whip up their own omelets or stir fry dishes at self-serve stations (I'm sensing long lines, but we'll see how that goes). These all-you-can-eat venues will attempt to focus on healthy options (perhaps to avoid that freshman 15, although you *can* gain weight at the salad bar) and comfort foods (to facilitate the freshman 15).

Another notable addition is an effort to include, with the disappearance of Royal Farms, fried chicken in the menu. Wolman will be open, as in years past, for lunch and dinner, but Terrace will be at your service continuously from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Also being offered is a new carry out option worth one block that will allow students to pick and choose four food items at Wolman or Terrace and be on their merry way.

**MegaBytes and the Depot** will (finally) include, in addition to meal replacement type foods, more convenience items (and rightfully so, since the J-store is no more). These goods can be purchased with points, with J-cash and with cash. Perhaps the days of the three-Gatorade dinner are over. Also, those on the meal plan can now

frequent the Depot until midnight instead of having to work around a 10 p.m. closing time.

**Levering Marketplace** is "wild" according to Mohr. Completely renovated and part of an effort to make the building more popular with students, the new, bright dining area in Levering is unrecognizable. Revitalized a bit last semester with meal equiv options, though in an expensive, a la carte form, Levering has been reinstated and now offers even more in the way of seating and dining options; it is now prepared to handle the increased traffic flow on the engineering quad caused by the opening of Hodson Hall last fall.

Students can expect to find four dining venues in Levering and a grab-and-go area stocked with items like salad and sushi. Salsa Rico will offer Mexican food, Pete's Arena is an Italian venue, the Sky Ranch Grill will prepare traditional break-

fast items and grilled selections and Sub Connections is, well, your sub connection. Fortunately, Levering is also offering expanded hours this year and will open for breakfast at 7 a.m. and close at 6 p.m.

All in all, you won't starve during your stay at JHU, and since you're entering into "the most exciting year in dining," when student complaints have been addressed and produced a new system, you're bound to find something that suits you. You will still discover Ramen and other easy stove-top or microwave creations, and of course it would be a shame not to venture out to some of the restaurants in Charles Village and beyond, no matter how happy you are with your meal plan. So while we wait to assess the taste and the value of the new system and, of course, its shortcomings, good luck and happy meal planning.

## TAKE-OUT TIPS

Here's a list of the most common take-out and delivery restaurants close-by:

Angelo's Carryout  
235-2595  
3600 Keswick Rd.

C&C Carryout  
235-4429  
3121 St. Paul St.

Egyptian Pizza  
323-7060  
542 E. Belvedere Ave.

Golden Crown Restaurant  
467-3213  
3320 Greenmount Ave.

Orient Express  
889-0003  
3111 St. Paul St.

Papa John's  
243-7272  
347 E. 33rd St.

Subway  
243-9550  
3233 St. Paul St.

Tamber's (Nifty Fifties)  
243-0383  
3327 St. Paul St.

## THE 2003 ALBERT SCHWEITZER GOLD MEDAL FOR HUMANITARIANISM



Awarded to

**Teresa Heinz Kerry**  
Chairman  
Heinz Family Philanthropies  
and The Heinz Endowments

**Tuesday, September 23, 2003  
8 p.m.**

**Shriver Hall Auditorium  
The Johns Hopkins University  
Homewood Campus**

The ceremony is free and open to the public. However, tickets are required and should be picked-up in advance. A number of tickets are reserved for JHU students on a first-come, first-served basis from September 2-19, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Office of Special Events, 105 Shriver Hall.

**For ticket information, call 410-516-7157.**

# Paper or plastic: stocking the fridge

By Jeff Katzenstein

Whether you're a freshman on the meal plan or a senior who needs to cook, Baltimore has a wide variety of options when it comes to buying food. There are large commercial supermarkets, and also several smaller, neighborhood markets that offer different tastes and different prices.

The most immediate option for food is **Eddie's Market**, only a few blocks from Homewood on St. Paul Street. Keep in mind that *immediate* is the key word here. Not that Eddie's is bad, but it's small and relatively expensive. Then again, if you don't have a car, you may end up going there several times a week.

Eddie's doesn't sell many bulk items because it's a small store. Even their meats are only sold in one-pound packages. You won't see any "economy-size," items except for toilet paper.

Eddie's offers a convenient option when you're too busy to trek outside of Charles Village, but have enough time to cook a meal. Their produce section is small, but decent. Eddie's is known for their deli, with a variety of fresh sandwiches, including the famous "Smokin' Jay". Eddie's also recently began serving breakfast sandwiches, which are much cheaper (and in my opinion, better) than Sam's Bagels' breakfast sandwiches. Their lunch sandwiches, however, are rather pricey.

The worst thing about Eddie's is their meat section. Eddie's meats are rarely fresh and often tough. They barely offer any seafood, and only recently added fish to their meat section.

If you're looking to come home with a couple shopping carts full of groceries, head up to Hampden to **Super G** or **Superfresh** (close enough to walk, but many take the shuttle). Both stores are comparable, and much larger and much cheaper than Eddie's. Each offers your standard supermarket fare, with a huge variety of products and plenty of opportunities to buy in bulk and save.

If you're really looking to save money, head down North Charles Street, where there is a **Safeway** about seven blocks south of campus. The prices are incredibly cheap, but let's just say they're cheap for a reason.

For good taste and good health, **Whole Foods**, near Little Italy, is a good, albeit expensive, option. The hugely popular national chain of upscale food stores has set up shop in almost every major city, including Baltimore. But don't let the yuppie-health-nut image fool you.

Although Whole Foods has a variety of vegetarian and vegan products, it also has great meat and seafood departments as well. The cheese section so big that it

takes up a whole corner of the store, and has at least 50 cheeses that you probably never knew existed. Their bakery is also excellent, specializing in a variety of breads and pastries, and offering exquisite gourmet cakes and pies as well.

Whole Foods prides itself on its produce section. It contains a variety of organic and non-organic products that are always fresh and often exotic. For lunch, Whole Foods is also quite the hot spot for local professionals on the go, with a huge salad bar, deli, prepared foods section, and fresh sushi bar. And one of the best things about Whole Foods is that there are *always* free samples throughout the store.

Unfortunately, freshness and taste come at a cost. If you're thrifty enough, buying supplies to cook a meal or two

is a viable option. However, you'll be sure to max out your credit card if you buy in bulk. Not to mention the fact that you'll need at least six carts, since they're about as big as hand baskets.

But Baltimore isn't just about supermarket chains. Charm City is famous for its various neighborhood markets, similar to many farmers markets across the country. **Lexington Market** is the best known. Located on Lexington Street in East Baltimore, its claim to fame is that it's "the world's largest, continuously operated market." Basically, it's big and has been operating for more than two hundred years.

The market has plenty of variety in terms of International cuisine, from Japanese to Italian to Greek to Malaysian. In addition, there's plenty of fresh

produce, meats and seafood at good prices.

As for prepared food, there are also a good number of choices, although some are questionable and not very tasty. Even if you don't shop there regularly, a visit to Lexington Market is essential to being a Baltimorean. Some other markets in Baltimore that offer the same quality of products are the **Cross St. Market** in Federal Hill and **Broadway Market** in Fells Point. During the warmer weather, there are also several outdoor farmers markets throughout the city.

If you're looking for a few dozen fresh crabs, some great brie, or just some Funyuns, the numerous food markets around Baltimore offer you a chance to escape the teriyaki tofu of Wolman and eat something other than Ramen noodles.

## Best friend or worst enemy?

By Jon Zimmer

College is all about adjustments: varied classes, newfound freedoms and life with a roommate. Since a healthy percentage of incoming Hopkins freshmen have never had to share a room before, this can be either be a fun-filled experience or a flat-out disaster.

Many issues can affect the relationship between you and your roommate(s), so here is a quick look at some of the more important ones:

### Studying

You are at Johns Hopkins. You and your roommate will most likely spend more time hitting the books than hitting the bottle. Some people prefer to study in the library; others prefer the privacy of their own rooms. The key is to work out a routine so each person has enough quiet time to get things done.

Worst-case scenario, there is always a friend's room, the lounge (if you are lucky enough to snag a room in Wolman or McCoy), or the library.

### Partying

Despite all the work that gets done here at the Hop, our student body still devotes plenty of energy to Beast and Beirut. If one person is a once-in-a-while partygoer and the other routinely comes back loud and drunk, this is obviously a problem.

Be vocal with your fellow dorm-dweller if he or she is disturbing your REM cycle. If you fall into the frat boy/

sorority girl side of the equation, be cognizant of your roommate's schedule. Accommodate as much as you can.

### Money

Let's face it; some of us have more than others. Some students have plenty and don't need to worry about a few dollars here or there, but that isn't the case for everybody. When outfitting your room, split up the cost as much as possible. At the same time, try to avoid being chintzy. Nobody likes a cheap-skate.

If you save a lot or your parents are generous with their credit cards, this doesn't really apply to you. But be sure to utilize common sense when it comes to splitting things like food and beverages.

### Sex

Just like with money, some of us have more of this than others. This area can range from a non-issue to one of the most important. Not all college students are sexually active; others have been for quite a while.

Your best bet is to have a general talk about whether or not it is okay to bring back partners, have explicit or pornographic material on the wall or laying around the room, or other possible variations on those themes. It probably isn't a good conversation starter on day one, but it might be easier after you've gotten to know your roommate a little better.

College students are a crafty species, and their ingenuity shows through when devising signaling systems if the room is "in use." It can be

as simple as putting a sock, t-shirt or something else on the doorknob. Regardless, nobody wants to walk in on his or her roommate mid-coitus. It's possible to know too much about the person who sleeps a few feet away from you.

### Cleanliness

Splitting up chores and keeping things clean is tougher than it seems. College students love to procrastinate, and when mom and dad aren't there to nag them into taking the garbage out, a big mess can result. Between dirty clothes, empty cans, bottles and wrappers, things can get ugly quickly in a cramped dorm room.

If you and your roommate both enjoy wallowing in your own filth, there should be no problems. If you both have a touch of OCD, then things should stay pretty clean on their own. If the two personalities mix, it could spell trouble. If you fall into the slob category, try not to let your roommate do all the cleaning. It'll just piss them off.

The bottom line is that living with somebody is all about compromise. If you and your roommate are willing to voice your concerns to each other, there will be a middle ground that works for both parties.

In the rare instance that you and your roommate are diametrically opposed in every way and there is no way it will work, be sure to give it a fair shot before you decide to find a new room.

After all, a period of some adjusting and frustration is not only normal; it's inevitable.

No interest.  
No annual fee.  
No, seriously.

**0% APR**

for 6 months  
on everything:

- Purchases
- Balance transfers
- Cash advances



**1% cash back**  
Plus, get a full **1%** cash back  
on your purchases.

Apply today for the Citi® Dividend Platinum Select® Card for College Students and start saving big on everything you buy. Not only will you get a full 1% cash back on purchases, you'll also save with a 0% APR on everything for 6 months as long as you do not default under any Card Agreement. Plus, you'll get all this:

- No annual fee
- Free Online Account Management
- Worldwide MasterCard® acceptance
- Great way to build good credit

**citi**

**Limited-Time Offer.  
Apply Today!**

† You may accumulate only a maximum of \$300 in Dividend Dollars in any calendar year, payable in \$100 checks. Returned purchases, cash advances, convenience checks, transferred balances, fees and finance charges do not earn Dividend Dollars. Please see back of application for more information regarding the Citi Dividend Platinum Select Reward Program.

DETAILS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR BALANCE TRANSFERS

Just follow these simple steps to start saving money on your high-interest cards.

- 1. After receiving your card, you may call our customer service number in order to transfer your high rate balances.
- 2. You may transfer any amount, as long as the total amount (including any balance transfer fee) does not exceed your available credit line. Be sure you do not transfer the amount of any disputed purchase or other charge, because you may lose your dispute rights. Also, continue to make payments on your other accounts until your balance transfer is processed.
- 3. The available credit line for your new card will be reduced by the total amount of the transfers we approve. We may not approve future balance transfers if you default under any Card Agreement.
- 4. Watch for payments to show up as credits on your other credit card statements. If the credited amount brings the balance down to zero, you may then cancel those accounts.
- 5. Please note you cannot transfer balances from other accounts issued by Citibank (South Dakota), N.A. or its affiliates. Finance charges will be assessed on balance transfers from the date the transaction is posted to your account.

Purchase Assurance and Extended Warranty are underwritten by Combined Specialty Insurance Company. Certain conditions, restrictions and exclusions will apply. Details of coverage will be provided upon cardmembership.

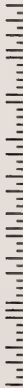


NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY IF  
MAILED IN THE  
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL  
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 737 HAGERSTOWN MD

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

CITIBANK  
P O BOX 9931  
HAGERSTOWN MD 21749-9931



CITIBANK DISCLOSURES

Annual percentage rate (APR) for purchases	0% for 6 months from date of account opening. After that, <b>13.99%</b> .
Other APRs	Balance transfer APR: 0% for 6 months from date of account opening. After that, 13.99%. Cash advance APR: 0% for 6 months from date of account opening. After that, 19.99%. Default rate: 27.99%. See explanation below.*
Variable rate information	Your APRs may vary. The rate for purchases and balance transfers is determined monthly by adding 9.99% to the Prime Rate.** The cash advance rate is determined monthly by adding 14.99% to the Prime Rate, but such cash advance rate will never be lower than 19.99%. The default rate is determined monthly by adding up to 23.99% to the Prime Rate.***
Grace period for repayment of balances for purchases	Not less than 20 days if you pay your total new balance in full each month by the due date.
Method of computing the balance for purchases	Average daily balance (including new purchases)
Annual fees	None
Minimum finance charge	50 cents
Transaction fee for cash advances: 3% of the amount of each cash advance, but not less than \$5. Transaction fee for balance transfers: 3% of the amount of each balance transfer, but not less than \$5 or more than \$50. Late fee: \$15 on balances up to \$100; \$25 on balances of \$100 up to \$1,000; and \$35 on balances of \$1,000 and over. Over-the-credit-line fee: \$35	

- \* All your APRs may increase if you default under any Card Agreement that you have with us because you fail to make a payment to us or any other creditor when due, you exceed your credit line, or you make a payment to us that is not honored by your bank.
  - \*\* The Prime Rate used to determine your APRs is the U.S. Prime Rate published in *The Wall Street Journal* on the last business day of each month.
  - \*\*\* Factors considered in determining your default rate may include the length of time your account with us has been open; the existence, seriousness and timing of defaults under any Card Agreement that you have with us; and other indications of account usage and performance.
- All account rates, fees and other cost information disclosed above are accurate as of July 1, 2003, but are subject to change in accordance to applicable law and the Card Agreement that will be sent with our card. To find out what may have changed after that date, please write to us at Citibank, P.O. Box 6116, Sioux Falls, SD 57117-6116. We allocate your payments to pay off low APR balances before paying off higher APR balances. That means your savings will be reduced by making transactions that are subject to higher APRs.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF OFFER

- This offer is only valid for new accounts. You must be at least 18 years of age. If you are married, you may apply for a separate account.
- You must be a legal resident of the United States. The application cannot be processed if the mailing address has been changed to a foreign address. Citibank (South Dakota), N.A. ("we"), the issuer of your card, may require you to provide a street address to us before we process your application.
- To process the application for a new account, it must be:
  - 1. Accurately completed, and
  - 2. Signed and verifiably correct.
- Please send the nontransferable application to:  
Citibank New Cardmember Services  
P.O. Box 9931  
Hagerstown, MD 21749-9931
- Please allow four weeks from date of mailing to process a completed application.
- We may gather information about you, including from your employer, your bank, credit bureaus, and others, to determine your eligibility for credit, renewal of credit, and future extensions of credit. If you ask us, we will tell you whether or not we requested a credit bureau report and the names and addresses of any credit bureaus that provided us with such reports.
- To receive a Citi Platinum Select MasterCard, you must meet our credit qualification criteria. Your credit limit will be determined by your yearly income and a review of your credit report. You will be informed of the amount of your credit line when you receive your card. Some credit lines may be as low as \$500. Please note that cash advances may be limited to a portion of your credit line.
- If you are approved for credit, you will receive a Card Agreement ("Agreement") with your card. The Agreement will be binding on you unless you cancel your account within 30 days after receiving your card and you have not used or authorized use of your account. We may change the Agreement at any time in accordance with applicable law and the terms of the Agreement.

Citi, Citi with Arc Design and Platinum Select are registered service marks of Citicorp.

A member of citigroup

MasterCard® is a registered service mark of MasterCard International Incorporated.

CITI® DIVIDEND PLATINUM SELECT® CARD REWARD PROGRAM INFORMATION

Open accounts that are not in default under the Card Agreement will receive a rebate calculated as 1% of your net monthly purchases (total purchases less credits and returns), which will show cumulatively on your Citi billing statement as "Dividend Dollars." Dividend Dollars will not accumulate on returned purchases, cash advances and convenience check, transferred balances, fees and finance charges. You may accumulate only a maximum of \$300 in Dividend Dollars in any calendar year, payable in \$100 checks. Returned purchases, cash advances, convenience checks, transferred balances, fees and finance charges do not earn Dividend Dollars.

Have you remembered to include  
a copy of your valid student ID?

No interest.  
No annual fee.  
No, seriously.

Get the card that offers all this with no annual fee:

- 0% APR on everything for 6 months\*
- 24-hour customer service
- Retail Purchase Protection<sup>1</sup>
- Great tips on how to build good credit at [www.UseCreditWisely.com](http://www.UseCreditWisely.com)

Mail in your application to apply today!  
You can also apply at [www.college2.dividend.citicards.com](http://www.college2.dividend.citicards.com)  
or call 1-800-498-7800, ext. 2200

### Citi® Dividend Platinum Select® Card for College Students Application

\*Please see Citibank Disclosures, which include rates, fees and other cost information, including the cash advance transaction fee that will apply.



#### PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

Print Full Name: First		MI	Last	Permanent U.S. Resident?	
				Yes	No
Your Permanent Home Address (or Parent's Address)			Apt. No.	Date of Birth	
City or Town	State	Zip Code	Your Social Security Number		
Your Permanent Area Code and Phone Number		Name of Person Phone is Listed Under (First Name, Last Name)			
Full Name of Nearest Relative Not Living With You			Your Relative's Phone Number		
Your Email Address*			Mother's Maiden Name or Security Password		

\*If you provide an email address, we may use it to contact you about your account. We may also use your email address to send you information about products you might find useful.

#### PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL

Your mailing address at school (If same as permanent, write "SAME", no P.O. Boxes, please.)		Apt. No.	Address to which you want your card and billing statement sent		Student Status
					Full-Time Part-Time
City or Town	State	Zip Code	Permanent	School	Your Class
					Fresh(A) Soph(B)
Your Area Code and Phone Number at School		Name of Person Phone is Listed Under (First Name, Last Name)		Junior(J) Senior(S)	
				Grad(G) Non-Student	
Full Name of College/University (Please use "UNIV" for University. Otherwise do not abbreviate.)			School Zip Code		

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Alimony, child support or separate maintenance income need not be revealed if you do not wish to have it considered as a basis for repaying this obligation.					
Primary Source of Income (check one)	Full-time job	Part-time job	Summer job	Allowance	Savings
Name of Employer (if applicable)			Employer Area Code and Phone Number		
Do you have a Money Market/Investment Account?			Do you have a Checking Account?		Do you have a Savings Account?
Yes No			Yes No		Yes No

#### VERIFICATION OF SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Please provide a legible copy of one of the following:		Your application cannot be processed without this information and will be delayed if you omit any information requested. (Be sure the copy shows your name, the date and your current enrollment status. Photocopy both sides if necessary.)	
The front and back of your VALIDATED Student ID for current semester.	PAID tuition bill for current semester.	Other proof of school enrollment.	

#### PLEASE SIGN AND DATE HERE

I certify that I meet and agree to all Citibank credit terms and conditions for the Citi card account as stated on the back of this application. Please allow 30 days to process this application.		Citibank (South Dakota), N.A. is allowed by law to share with its affiliates any information about its transactions or experiences with you. Unless otherwise permitted by law, Citibank will not share among its affiliates any other information you provide or it gets from third parties (for example, credit bureaus), if you check here
Applicant's Signature	Today's Date	

citi

Limited-Time Offer.  
Apply Today!

4C1CKAG3898B98&&&UU

N NA0CKA

5140595

Be sure to complete all sections using blue or black ink and capital letters. Example: [A] [B] [C] Please mark [X] with an X.



# Don't you wish you had a little jeep, too?

By Raphael Schweber-Koren

Security is all about the cars: big blue vans that carry students around the area, and little white SUVs, boldly labeled "Security," that patrol on- and off-campus.

It's the big escort vans that get the most consistent attention. In April 2003, an average of 354 students a day used the security escort shuttles, with 421 students per day on weekends. The shuttles took students grocery shopping, studying, snacking and partying.

But the smaller SUVs carry as much of the mission, if not more.

Security currently has four patrols running off-campus. Director of Security Ronald Mullen said that he continues to work to combat the perception that areas off campus are not safe. As part of that effort, Mullen said, Hopkins has hired more contract guards to patrol the campus, freeing up Hopkins officers to patrol off-campus areas.

That doesn't mean students should be carefree about their surroundings. On-campus escorts are provided. Off-campus, students should walk in groups or take the escort vans.

The escort service operates two sets of vans: fixed-route vans, which run down Charles and Saint Paul Streets and along University Parkway towards the Rotunda and Superfresh, and an off-route van service, which make pickups anywhere else. Route vans operate on a schedule, which can be found at [http://www.jhu.edu/~security/rotunda\\_express.htm](http://www.jhu.edu/~security/rotunda_express.htm).

The difference between your own car and the shuttle service is the wait: Lt. George Kibler, who has supervised the shuttle service for five years, estimates that the average wait for an off-route shuttle is roughly ten minutes. Unfortunately, it can often be double or triple the time during the early months of the semester.

This year, Kibler said he has "built up a little reserve force" to handle extra demand, saying that his fleet of six vans should be able to "meet most of the need." Under normal conditions there will be four vans, with an additional on- and off-route van on backup for periods of heavy load.

But Kibler said that early-semester demand sometimes exceeds that capacity, and asks students to be patient. "When you get that large number coming in, you could increase the vans another one or two times, and it still may not be enough to meet that need out there, when [students] want it," Kibler said.

Also, Kibler said, students should be aware of the shift change that occurs at 10 p.m., often causing extra delays for students heading out around that time. Kibler also said that the rain can exacerbate the whole problem because of the extra demand.

In the end, Kibler says that if you need to be somewhere on time, "call us earlier than normal." And above all, Mullen says that students should not hesitate to call Security if they feel they are in danger on the street, imploring students to, "rely on us, call us."

Students who find themselves stranded off-campus can call Security for help. In addition to their myriad shuttle services, the department has an emergency cab program to help students stranded far from Homewood. "Our interest is mainly to get them back and the cab service is an excellent resource for that," says Kibler.

Students who find themselves arrested should call Security to help get them back to campus quickly after processing at Central Booking.

Security is also responsible for implementing the University's response to any terror alerts. When the level was at orange earlier this year, Security increased patrols and started checking trucks entering campus. Security also closed 34<sup>th</sup> street between Wolman and McCoy Halls to traffic, as well as the Charles Street service lane in front of the Homewood Apartments, a decision that proved highly controversial within the student community.

Responding to criticism that Security had not communicated well with businesses in the area about its threat response, Mullen said: "If the



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

Sgt. Caroline Bennett patrols the busy afternoon streets outside campus.

Federal Government tells us we have a concern that there is a threat against universities per se ... we're not going to get the community together and say 'Gee, folks, do you all mind if we do this?'

"We would rather go out later and have to apologize to people and say 'Gee, we're sorry we didn't tell you,' as opposed to not doing something."

Security also maintains awareness

of local crime by issuing a Daily Crime Log and Daily Incident Reports. For specific crimes, they release Security Information Alerts and Flyers. These notices can all be found on the Security website at <http://www.jhu.edu/~security>.

Students who are victims of a crime, or have concerns about their security or safety, should call Security at extension 6-4600 at any time.

## Make friends, then argue

By Ron Demeter

At one point in our college careers we were all freshmen. We didn't know anyone, so we clung to the people nearest to us: our dorm mates. As time passed on, we came to the realization that a basis for a friendship should be more than just convenient geography.

From that point, we all branched out to other arenas, looking for other students that shared the same interests. For myself, I found that the best way to meet other students is to join student groups. Not only do these groups allow Hopkins students to bond, but they also afford the opportunity to make a difference.

Among the many groups available to students are religious organizations. At Hopkins, the Interfaith Center creates an atmosphere of unity between groups that seem to be at each other's throats at other colleges. Hopkins is probably one of the few schools in the nation where students involved in the

Jewish Student Association and Muslim Students Association socialize regularly and attend each other's events. If you have a religion, there is a group that you can join.

In addition to religious organizations, campus cultural groups organize events all the time. As an added bonus, they occasionally offer free food.

Many Hopkinites were involved in music in high school. Some of us were in the band, others sang in the choir. At Hopkins, you can fulfill your musical craving by either taking lessons at Peabody or joining one of a handful of groups on campus.

For those that are into classical music, the Hopkins Symphony Orchestra or the JHU Band would be a good bet. For those that can sing, there are several a capella groups on campus. So many groups, so little space, here's a few: Octopodes, a coed group that wears all blue; All-Nighters, an all male group that wears vests; Sirens, an all female group that wears black; Mental Notes, a funny coed group that wears funny

clothes. OK, you've caught on.

We all have personal politics and views. If you're interested in politics, Hopkins has an abundance of groups to fulfill your political desires. Because many students tend to be very focused on their work, Hopkins doesn't have many large-scale political events, but it's easy to join any group.

The College Republicans come out in force, sponsoring many events on campus and boasting a very active membership. The College Democrats are also prominent. Other groups focus on specialized interests, such as the ACLU, and for those who like to argue, there's always the Debate Team.

In addition to the varsity sports, there also are a fair number of club sports, some with a fanatical following. Rugby and Ultimate Frisbee are two sports that come to mind.

These are just a sampling of the many student groups on campus that one can join. Remember, if you have an interest, and a group doesn't exist. Just start one.

# How to know your Hopkins ABCs all my lizzle freshizzles for the time bizzle

By Gina Callahan

To make your transition to college easier, the *News-Letter* has provided you with a local lingo guide. You say you love the *News-Letter* already? Aww, thanks. Anyway, when you meet a BME who lives in the AMRs, leaving the beach and heading to D-level to study DifEq in order to avoid AcPro, we want you to have the correct response ready. Save the blank face for your classes. Welcome to Hopkins.

## AC/Rec Center

Formerly known and still referred to as the Athletic Center, or AC for short, the Recreation Center, the new fitness mecca on campus, is where you can get your sweat on and the best place on campus to check out the opposite sex.

## AcPro

Academic probation. To stay off, you gotta keep your GPA over 2.0. Don't be a dumb-ass.

## AMRs

Alumni Memorial Residences, the dorms located on campus where the majority of Hopkins freshman will hang their hats. If you're here, you've probably already heard about housing and know that although these are the least amenable dormitories, they are also the most social.

## APPT

A Place to Talk, a service provided by a group of your classmates trained as peer counselors. It's a good place to ... umm ... talk.

## Arts & Crafts

The name bitter engineers give the School of Arts and Sciences. Usually reserved for the "writing intensive" majors such as History, Writing Seminars or Political Science.

## Bawltmore

Your new home. So sorry about that.

## The Beach

The giant green lawn outside of the library where students gather and frolic on nice days. The Beach is more of a student union than the actual student union.

There's neither water nor sand, but it is a good place to check out scantily clad coeds. We take what we can get.

## Beruit

Also called beer pong, a drinking game often played by college students ... even those at JHU. After four years at Hopkins, you just might be an expert marksman.

## Bloomberg

As in Michael, the current mayor of New York, a 1964 Hopkins alum and Phi Psi brother. Bloomberg is also known as the "anonymous donor" who paid to pave campus walkways in brick. Also the name of the building that's far far away, the School of Public Health, and the scholarship.

## Brody

El Presidente.

## BMA

The Baltimore Museum of Art, located on the south side of the Hopkins campus. Admission is free for Hopkins students, so go get your dose o' culture.

## BME

Biomedical Engineering. A popular and ... gasp ... competitive program here at JHU. Most BME majors switch to something else by sophomore year.

## Breezeway

Big set of stairs separating the upper and lower quads. The wheelchair ramp only goes up halfway, but that's far enough to read the banners and flyers that student groups post here.

## Cafe Q

Located above M-Level of the MSE Library, this classy espresso bar makes the coffee that gets Hopkins kids through long nights of studying.

## CollTown Shuttle

The oh-so reliable shuttle service between JHU and surrounding schools. Make sure you have your Hopkins ID and a backup plan if you want a ride.

## CVP

Charles Village Pub, a local watering hole on Saint Paul Street.

## CONDOM

The College of Notre Dame of Maryland, an all-girls Catholic school located to our north. (Not to be confused with condoms: free prophylactic devices that are stationed in various

locations around campus because Hopkins thinks you need all the help you can get.)

## D-Level

Lowest and most tomb-like level of the library. No cell phone service, but if you wait around long enough, you may catch a couple attempting the D-Level challenge (use your imagination).

## Death Lane

The one southbound lane on the northbound side of Charles Street. It is closed all the time, except for rush hour in the morning. Every year someone forgets to look both ways and becomes windshield wiper fluid.

## DifEq

Differential Equations. Its a hard class that all you arts and crafts majors don't have to worry about.

## E-Level

Located in Levering Hall and named after Eugene Levering, the Prohibition Party's first candidate for Congress from Maryland, E-Level was once ironically the student pub on campus. It is now a mediocre attempt at a lounge, but progress seems slow but sure.

## Gatehouse

Dilapidated little green building on the corner of Charles and Art Museum Drive. The home of the *News-Letter* since 1965. Come visit! Free food.

## Glass Pav

The opaque pavilion-like structure adjoining Levering Hall. Home of blood drives and corny orientation events.

## HAC Lab

Homewood Academic Computing Lab. Open 24/7 except for a brief cleaning time slot on Sunday morning.

## Health and Wellness (Center)

The place to go when you rock backwards in your AMR desk chair and slam your head on a concrete floor, or when you break the bones in the top of your foot getting out of a lofted McCoy bed to answer the phone at 3 a.m. Also your flu-shot, birth control, and overall "I feel icky and want my mommy" destination.



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

See and be seen as you throw back a few with the crew at local joint CVP.

## Hop Cops

Bold protectors of our little microcosm. These are also the guys that give you a ride home after the shuttles stop running.

## The Hut

The University's first library, located in Gilman Hall (the one with the big bell tower), that now serves as a 24-hour reading room/sauna. The Hut becomes the popular place to be during midterms after the library closes at 2 a.m.

## IAP

Introduction to American Politics class taught by professor Benjamin Ginsburg. The class is worth going to just to hear Ginsburg's sarcastic take on American politics.

## IFP

Introduction to Fiction and Poetry, an intro-level course in the Writing Seminars department. This will not be the most difficult class you take at Hopkins.

## IR

International Relations, sub-major of the Political Science department and one of the most popular among Hopkins undergrads. Super-focused IR majors may compete for the accelerated 5-year BA/MA program in which they finish out their last two years at SAIS (Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, located in D.C.).

## J-Card

That little blue card they gave you when you arrived at college. Don't lose it, you'll need it.

## Lax

Lacrosse. We're good, real good. 42 National Championships good. This year we made it all the way to the NCAA finals but lost to Virginia.

## Master Plan

Refers to the University's improvement strategy, aimed at "making the campus pedestrian-friendly" and constructing all the time. Recently completed buildings include the Mattin Center, Hodson and Clark Halls, and the Athletic Center addition.

## MCATs

The test you crazy pre meds are sweating over for years. Yes, it is that hard and yes, it does take a lot of studying to do well. Yes, it will determine the rest of your life and no, its

not a cakewalk like the SATs.  
MSE

Milton S. Eisenhower. Hopkins likes to name things after its 8th president (the man in charge during the same time his brother ran the country). The library is a good example. Familiarize yourself with the library. Know the library. Love the library.

## New Jersey

Probably your home state.

## Orgo

Organic Chemistry. Other schools call it O-chem. You can call it daddy.

## Peabody

Another of Hopkins' nine divisions, Peabody Institute is one of the oldest and most prestigious musical conservatories in the country. Undergrads can minor in music at Peabody or just take lessons for credit. You'll also meet the occasional (crazy) dual-degree student, who splits his or her time between the Homewood campus and this downtown location.

## PJs

Pub connected to the Charles apartment building right next to Wolman. If you are into stalking lacrosse players, this is the place to go.

## RA

This is the person that busts you for drinking, writes you up for having a hotplate and makes you take copies of the News-Letter off of your walls because it is "fire hazard." This is also the person that helps you through freshman year, organizes events and if you're lucky could also be a good friend.

## RoFo

Beloved Royal Farms, a convenience store on the corner of 33rd and Saint Paul Streets that will meet its end as part of the Master Plan. Get your fried chicken while you can.

## Rotunda

Grungy shopping plaza, accessible via the Hopkins shuttle. Inside you can find a Giant supermarket, Rite Aid and Radio Shack.

## SAC

Student Activities Commission, representative body of the campus student organizations.

## Schnapp Shop

A local liquor store located on



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

*Daisy Begum happily rings up customers at the esteemed Royal Farms.*

Calvert Street and 30th. Its a good place to pick up liquor once you hit the magical 21.

## Sketchy

An adjective frequently uttered at Hopkins. I never used it much back home in my beloved Massachusetts, but trust me — some things down here are only described as wicked sketchy.

## Spring Fair

Large student-run fair that takes place in the spring, usually with some controversy. Food, music, rides, beer garden. Overall not a bad deal.

## StuCo

You guessed it, Student Council. You're so smart.

## TA

Grad student that runs sections in the larger classes or is just the person that helps out the professor. Your TA will probably not speak English but he/she is probably the person tabulating your grad, so be nice.

## Throat

As in cut-throat, those fellow students who pull fire alarms the night before a big exam, steal notes and computers, and have already sold their souls and integrity for grades or something else.

## Towson

Town to the North, home of the mall and the state university with the same name ... and girls rumored to be more attractive than we are. Don't get me started.

## Uni-Mini

University Mini-Mart, convenience store directly across from RoFo. How do two similar stores stay afloat on adjacent blocks? Each has its own nuances. Uni-Mini staff, for example, will scoop you some ice cream and fix you up a grinder (or whatever you call them). Much like RoFo, Uni-Mini will be gone at the end of 2003.

## Wawa

The Alpha Delta Phi fraternity currently located above University Mini-mart. There used to be a Wawa store there, so the name just stuck. This is the fraternity consisting of football players and other really really big guys.

## WJHU

Hopkins' student-run radio station, located on the terrace level of McCoy and back in business after a lengthy hiatus. For now WJHU is only broadcast on the internet, but who knows what the future may hold. Requests can be made via IM (you can't avoid AIM at college; somewhere along the line it became a standard part of the culture.)

# Cars: You can't park them anyway

By Jeff Katzenstein

If you're a college student and you don't have a car, things could be worse. You *could* be in a remote college town where there isn't a train or bus station for miles and leaving town means hiking over a rocky mountain pass.

Luckily, you're in Baltimore, a place where if you look on the brighter side of things, everything looks pretty nice. If you don't have a car, keep this in mind. Transportation can cost an arm and a leg, but if you know enough, it can be ridiculously cheap. However, like many things in life, you get what you pay for.

When traveling around the city, there are several options, but it sometimes depends on where you want to go.

The local bus has more than 40 routes throughout the city, so you're sure to get where you want to go. Just remember that usually means a longer trip and the possibility of transferring buses. The local buses are usually crowded and don't run on schedule, but the low fare (\$1.60 one way) can't be beat. Keep in mind that it'll probably take you about 30 to 40 minutes to get to the Inner Harbor if you factor in waiting for the bus.

Believe it or not, Baltimore also has a subway, called the Metro. In true Baltimore style, it only has one line, running from the Hospital/Med School in East Baltimore to Owings Mills, a northwest suburb of Baltimore. Granted, this line is pretty lengthy (it takes about a half hour to travel from end to end), and most Hopkins students tend not to use it, since it runs east/west and north/south. The Metro, like the bus, is only \$1.60 each way.

One of the best things about living in a large city is that there are plenty of cabs. It's easier to get a cab if you're on a major street, and it's a good idea to get a few friends to split the fare. A cab to the Inner Harbor usually costs about \$8 and about \$12 to Little Italy or Fell's Point.

Finally, one of the best services that the University offers is its free shuttle service. The local shuttle that stops behind Shriver Hall drops off and picks up at the Peabody School of Music (on Monument St., about five blocks from the harbor) and at the JHU Medical School. The security shuttle service can be reached by calling x6.5700 and can pick you up at your dorm or house to take you anywhere within about a seven block radius.

Several options also are available for a trip home, depending on where you live. Leaving the driving to Greyhound will save you money, but could also leave you with a headache. The local bus station is on Fayette Street, closer to the harbor and about an \$8 cab ride from Homewood. The best thing about Greyhound is the price. For example, a one-way Greyhound fare from Baltimore to Philadelphia (\$18.50) is far less than a one-way Amtrak ticket (\$43). In fact, you could get a round trip bus ticket for

less than a one-way train ticket.

The problem with Greyhound is the service. The station is in poor condition, and it's not as safe as the train station. To make matters worse, your ticket doesn't give you a guaranteed seat on the bus. You have to wait in line for a bus that is usually late, and neither you, nor the employees at the station, know when your bus will arrive. The actual bus ride, however, can be a much smoother, quieter ride than the train, although this all depends on whether or not there's a crying baby in the seat next to you. Basically, if you need to get somewhere in a hurry, don't take the bus.

Penn Station, located the 1500 block of Charles St., is about a \$5 cab ride from Homewood. The best thing about taking the train is reliability. You can purchase a ticket quickly, hop on a train, and arrive at your destination faster than the time it would take to drive. Just be careful; since unserved trains are the cheapest (and thus what most college students ride), they can be packed on weekends and holidays, leaving you to stand or sit in the cramped aisle of the train.

Another, cheap option is the Light Rail, which departs from Penn Station. The Light Rail goes north through Timonium towards Hunt Valley, and also south through Baltimore to BWI

Airport. The Light Rail is much slower than regular Amtrak trains but considerably cheaper, at the same price (\$1.60) as the bus or metro.

Sure, it would be nice to have a car in which you could drive anywhere. Sure, taking public transportation or walking places can be a pain. But car

repairs, auto insurance and paying for parking and gas can also be annoying. You can go all four years living in Baltimore without a car. Many people have, and though it may be tough to make it out to Best Buy in White Marsh anytime you want, that's what friends (with cars) are for, right?



COURTESY OF [HTTP://SAFETYWEB.UOREGON.EDU](http://SAFETYWEB.UOREGON.EDU)

To avoid the infamous "boot," make sure you know where to park legally.

## Wheel 'em and deal 'em

By Julianna Finelli

Having a car at Hopkins can be both a blessing and a bane. It saves time by allowing you to bypass the less-than-adequate public transportation system, and can save you bundles in cab fare. But if you don't know where to park, you could spend the rest of the school year chasing after tow trucks and paying off \$30 parking tickets.

Charles Village has extremely limited parking space. Between area residents and commuters, very little room is left for students. Your parking options depend greatly on where you live.

If you are a freshman living on campus, don't even think about it — you'll have no need for a car, and you'll certainly have nowhere to park it.

Students living in rowhouses can usually obtain a Residential Parking Permit, which allows them to park anywhere within the Charles Village zone, "Area 12," without the usual two-hour restriction. If you have an out-of-state car, you'll also need to register it in Baltimore before you're granted a permit. Both the permit and the registration will cost you. To apply for a permit, call the Baltimore City Parking Authority at (443)-573-2800.

If you live in an apartment, check with the building manager — certain apartment buildings have their own lots or garages. Space is usually limited, however, so you might spend some time on a waiting list before you actually get a spot. Most spaces will cost between \$50 and \$100 a month. You also should check if you are eligible for a parking permit — residents of certain buildings qualify, while those in other buildings do not.

You can qualify for a spot in Hopkins' parking facilities if you live more than a mile away from campus. The waiting list stretches more than a mile as well — it's worth a try, but don't count on getting a space.

If you don't meet any of these criteria, then you'll have to brave the perils of street-parking. Most streets in Charles Village have a two-hour restriction, some until as late as 9 p.m. Students can stash their cars on University Boulevard, where there are stretches of unrestricted parking. But good luck finding space — those who find a spot usually leave their cars there for as long as possible.

While many students avoid parking hassles by leaving their cars for long periods of time, Homewood Park-

ing Manager Ray Infussi warns that vehicles left for longer than 48 hours can be considered abandoned, and are subject to towing. Of course, someone would need to report the car and, according to Infussi, this never happens — but park at your own risk.

Some students try to beat the system by obtaining a visitor's permit, which costs about \$20 and is technically only short-term. The only way to get a visitor's permit is to have a resident obtain one for you, and it expires after a certain period of time. Some students contend that they can use their visitor's permit for the whole year, but again, you have to be willing to risk the consequences.

Finding parking is only part of the game — protecting it is another story. Make sure you always lock your doors and roll up your windows — don't hide a key in the car, and don't leave any valuables visible inside. Buy a good map of Baltimore and know the area's parking restrictions. If you do run into any problems (for example, your car has been towed and you have no idea where it is), call Hopkins Security for assistance.

Enjoy your set of wheels — and enjoy having people bum rides off you all the time.

# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

VOLUME CVII, ISSUE 1

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

SEPTEMBER 4, 2003



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins awards an average of 12.6 men's and 12 women's lacrosse scholarships each year.

## Jays dispute NCAA reforms

### Vote could end Hopkins Division I Lacrosse scholarships

BY ERIC RIDGE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The NCAA Division III President's Council has voted to stop the dispensing of athletic scholarships at schools like Hopkins, which consider themselves Division III schools but who also field Division I teams.

The decision paves the way for a January 2004 vote of Division III members on the reform package that includes the scholarship

provision.

If the vote passes, Hopkins may be forced to change its sports program affiliation to Division I so that its seven-time NCAA champion lacrosse program can stay competitive, or risk having the high-profile lacrosse team relegated to Division III status.

The President's Council recommendation would eliminate a Division III school's right to give scholarships to its Division I teams. The right to give scholar-

ships is an integral part of the current Division I athletics system, one that promotes competition between schools with top-notch athletic programs trying to woo star high school athletes with lucrative scholarship packages.

Hopkins awards 12.6 men's and 12 women's lacrosse scholarships each year.

Division III sports are a much different story. Since 1983, NCAA rules have strictly prohibited

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4

## Club night event closes down early

BY ISHAI MOOREVILLE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

This year's Club Night, an annual freshman orientation event, was unexpectedly cut short Monday night after the manager of Redwood Trust decided the club had become too crowded and that students were damaging club property.

It was about 11:45 p.m. when students were thrown out of the club, a full two hours before the event was supposed to end. Some students who arrived at the club from Hopkins were turned away after waiting in the entrance line for a half hour or longer.

During the course of the

evening, the club manager made repeated requests for students to stop dancing on music speakers but was ignored. The ownership also told the Orientation staff that they had problems with some of the upperclassmen who attended the event while intoxicated and whom they felt were harming the club's facilities. Later, Director of Orientation Mike Little made an announcement asking for the students to be more respectful of their surroundings.

That apparently did not appease the owners who later closed down the club on their own accord.

About 1,700 tickets were sold for the event. Orientation staff

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4

## New Chem. Building nearing completion

BY MAANY PEYVAN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Here's hoping incoming freshmen like the sight of brick. Construction around campus is still in full gear as renovations take place on the Garland quad and new buildings are erected on the west side of campus.

With the New Chemistry Building nearing completion and the San Martin Center slated to open this fall, the aftershocks of the Master Plan continue to roll through campus.

Just west of Mudd Hall, the

nearly finished New Chemistry Building is set to replace Dunning Hall as the new site for chemistry research labs. Dunning is a 40-year-old veteran of the Homewood campus in sore need of replacement. Problems with plumbing and air handling were common in the dilapidated building, and researchers were often relocated while repairs were being made.

A plan to modernize Dunning Hall was considered but estimates to renovate the structure were nearly as high as creation of a new building. The new building hopes

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5

## Residency program penalized

BY FRANCESCA HANSEN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Johns Hopkins' Medical Institute has been stripped of the certification of its largest residency program. The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) withdrew the internal medicine program's accreditation after they discovered the program had violated a number of rules in the early weeks of July, including resident work limits. A young physician's complaint spurred the investigation, which found the program's residents had been working up to 100 hours a week, rather than an average of 80 hours a week, the limit set by the ACGME.

Working under a mission

statement of "ensuring and improving the graduate medical education experience for physicians in training," the ACGME certifies all 7,800 Residency programs in the country. While other medical strongholds such as Yale have previously been cited for overworking residents, Hopkins is the first school to be officially punished under the new rules of July 1, 2003.

Hopkins officials said the violations were minor and were rectified as soon as the ACGME's punishment was given, according to *The Baltimore Sun*. The internal medicine program has time to reapply for reaccreditation, as the official penalty will go into effect July 1, 2004.

Although the accreditation loss came as a shock to many, it is considered less severe because it was not given for any educational faults in the program. While many speculate that the ACGME is making an example of Hopkins, the council stressed the universality of the work limits. "It isn't as if this just started on July 1, 2003," ACGME official Ingrid Philibert told *The Sun*. "We've had this standard in internal medicine for a long time."

Some residents asserted the necessity of their rigorous schedule, despite its violation of labor laws. "It's absurd," third-year resident John Dooley told *The Sun*. "The intensity of the training is what attracts people here."



VADIM GRETCHEVOUCHKIN/NEWS-LETTER

The new chemistry building will primarily be a research facility.

# Hopkins at No. 14 in U.S. News rankings

BY ERIC RIDGE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Johns Hopkins University moved up one place, to No. 14, in this year's *U.S. News & World Report* national college rankings that were published last week. The move marks the second consecutive year that Hopkins has jumped up one spot.

Hopkins administrators expressed mixed feelings about the magazine's rankings.

"Our reaction was that of course it's nice to move up rather than stay still or drop back, and looking at it over the next couple of years, we've moved up a couple of places. We're pleased with moving up but our view is that this is not the best measure of any university," said Dean of Academic Enrollment William Conley.

This year, for the first time, the rankings did not include the "yield" measure, which rates schools on the percentage of students who accept a college's offers of admissions.

The "yield" was generally considered a boon to schools that filled a large number of their spots through early decision applicants because those early decision applicants had already promised to go to the school should they be accepted. Schools that had a large percentage of their class spots filled by early decision students had a larger percentage of their yield near one-hundred percent.

Conley, however, said that the "yield" category was never a major factor in the rankings.

"The yield never had significant weight anyway, so the feeling was that it was simply to remove a criterion that *U.S. News* felt was a source of manipulation for schools to try to increase their yield rate through more early decisions."

Proponents of *U.S. News* rankings say the magazine's annual issue, "America's Best Colleges" is a usefully guide for parents and potential students trying to weed their way through the complicated and often con-

fusing college admissions process.

But critics of the magazine's rankings have blamed the magazine's issue for fueling the increasingly competitive admissions process and by ranking the colleges with an emphasis on factors that are only marginally important.

Conley said that while he disagrees that the *U.S. News* rankings are the best measure of any university, he sees people using the data responsibly.

"I think that college students and families are using this not as scripture but as a guide. If an institution is in this range and in the company of these institutions, than they feel it's worth looking at."

He also downplayed the survey's impact on future applications.

"This year we had an eight percent increase [in] applications but I don't think it's attributable to the move from No. 16 to No. 15. I think that the winning of a basketball or foot-

ball championship gives a much better jump start for an institution's number of applications than *U.S. News* does."

The magazine's rankings were good news compared to another college ranking guide's recent evaluation of Hopkins.

In its new edition, *The Princeton Review* rated Hopkins No. 12 on its 'Is it Food?' category.

Conley said that he regarded *The Princeton Review's* annual book as more entertainment than objective reporting and he said

that he felt parents and students agreed.

"I really see that *Princeton Review* does this more to sell books than to inform students about what really matters about selecting a college."

He said that potential Hopkins applicants would likely not be deterred by the poor food rating.

"I don't think a perspective student is going to exclude Hopkins from his or her choice list because our English muffins aren't as good as Georgetown's."

## THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

### EDITORIAL BOARD

Editors-in-Chief	Ron Demeter, Teresa Matejovsky
Business Manager	Jerry Liang
Managing Editors	Maany Peyvan, Lindsay Saxe
Advertising Managers	Joe Lin, Edgar Lee
Photography Editors	Vadim Gretchouchkin, Denise Terry
Copy Editors	Jed Borod, Fareed Riyaz
Special Edition/Focus Editors	Julianna Finelli, Megan Waitkoff
News Editors	Francesca Hansen, Eric Ridge
Features Editor	Gina Callahan, Jeff Katzenstein
Sports Editors	Claire Koehler, Jon Zimmer
Arts Editors	Robert Whelan
Opinions Editor	Ishai Mooreville
Electronic Editions Editor	Josh Wainer
Graphics Editor	Emily Nalven
Systems Manager	Raphael Schweber-Koren

## Board of Trustees appoints six BET founder, NBA owner Robert Johnson among selectees

BY JENNA O'STEEN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Six new members have been appointed to the Johns Hopkins Board of Trustees, the group that runs major University affairs.

Among the most notable are Robert L. Johnson who founded Black Entertainment Television (BET) and who now owns a National Basketball Association franchise, and David M. Rubenstein, cofounder of the Carlyle Group, a global private equity firm.

The new inductees join a Board composed of forty-nine members. Their role includes approving the budget and five year financial plan, overseeing the appointment of full-time professors and deans, setting tuition and reviewing all capital projects.

Their terms began on July 1 and continue for four to six years depending on their position, and most have the ability to be renewed upon completion.

Johnson is widely regarded as a visionary in the world of cable television. He started BET in 1980, and despite widespread doubts about the cable channel's ability to garner a significant audience share, it now reaches 65 million U.S. homes. He is still

the chairman and CEO of the company, which he sold to corporate giant Viacom, Inc. in 2000.

He was a major partner in United Airlines' failed attempt to acquire U.S. Airways in 2000. Johnson's stake in the deal, had it been approved, would have been to acquire U.S. Airways' Washington business and run it under the company name D.C. Air.

Johnson is also no stranger to serving on boards like the one he now joins at Hopkins. He is on the board of U.S. Airways, Hilton Hotels International and the Brookings Institution.

Before Rubenstein started the Carlyle group, he was a political appointee, serving as Deputy Domestic Policy Assistant to the President of the United States. He held the position in 1981. After becoming partner of a Washington, D.C. law firm, he started the Carlyle group in 1987.

Alexander H. Levi is a clinical psychologist with his own private practice in New York.

Robert A. Seder is one of the alumni trustees on the board. Out of the 49 members, twelve are always alumnus of Hopkins. Mr. Seder is the chief of the cellular immunology sec-

tion of the Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. He graduated from Hopkins in 1981.

Marjorie M. Fisher, the other alumni trustee on the board, is an assistant professor in the Department of Near Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Mich. In 1984, she received a master of arts from Johns Hopkins.

Elizabeth Owens is the newest young trustee on the board. There are four young trustees on the board who are recent graduates of Hopkins.

They are elected by an original nomination from the student body, and their terms last for four years without the chance for renewal.

The trustees have meetings in October, December, March, and June, which are lead by Raymond Mason, the chairman of the board.

Julie Morgan, assistant secretary to the Board of Trustees explained, "I want to stress how important the board is to the University, putting countless volunteer hours in and also typically making large financial contributions. The University owes a lot to their leadership."

*The Johns Hopkins News-Letter* is published every Thursday during the academic year by the students of The Johns Hopkins University with the exception of holidays, exam periods and vacations. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the editorial board. All submissions become property of the *News-Letter*.

Business hours are Mondays through Fridays, 1-5 p.m. The deadline for advertisements is 5 p.m. on the Tuesday before the Thursday of publication. Subscriptions are available to our readers for \$30 per semester, \$50 for the full academic year. The total circulation to the local campuses of Johns Hopkins (Homewood, Medical School and Hospital, Peabody, Downtown Center), area colleges and the greater Baltimore region is 6,000.

©2003 *The Johns Hopkins News-Letter*. No material in this issue may be reproduced without the expressed, written permission of the Editors-in-Chief.

### The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

The Gatehouse (corner of N. Charles St. and Art Museum Dr.)

Mailing Address:  
Levering Suite 102  
The Johns Hopkins University  
3400 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218

Main Phone Number: 410-516-6000  
Business/Advertising: 410-516-4228  
Fax Number: 410-516-6565  
E-mail: [News.Letter@jhu.edu](mailto:News.Letter@jhu.edu)  
<http://www.jhunewsletter.com/>

# Peabody Library floods

BY FRANCESCA HANSEN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

When disaster struck the George Peabody Library on the weekend of Aug. 4, librarians began freezing the damage. A team of librarians and technicians began dry freezing over 8,000 volumes of the library's collection to ward off water damage from a leaking air conditioning pipe that penetrated almost six floors of the historical buildings collection.

When a preservation librarian detected the condensation pipe seeping through the volumes, the recovery process began immediately.

"We were able to fling straight into action," said external relations director Pamela Higgins. Acting within the Library of Congress' recommended 48-hour preservation window, librarians set the air conditioning at a frigid 60 degrees, retarding any initial mold growth.

Then the professionals came to Baltimore. The Document Reprocessors company was hired to handle Peabody's rare books, having had experience with everything from cigars from the Titanic to toxic spills. Using a human chain through the library's floors, the salvagers began to identify the wettest books and carefully place them into approximately 1,500 boxes, which were then transported to the company's plant in Rochester, N.Y.

Although water damage has struck the library system before, no Baltimore based company could have handled the scale and complexity of the Peabody case. At the Document Reprocessors plant, volumes were first separated by the material of their covers by library officials, with cloth material covered books placed into a 45-foot freezing chamber.



VADIM GRETCHOUCHKIN/NEWS-LETTER  
**The Peabody library is undergoing renovations while about 8,000 books are frozen to reverse water damage.**

This dry freezing process removes all the liquid from the book by going directly from ice to vapor.

However, as many of the rare books are bound in leather or vellum and would crack without moisture, they had to be cryogenically frozen, a process unique to the preservation company.

This modern preservation technology eased concerns of those involved, including Peabody Library director Cynthia Requart. "It was a very unfortunate accident, but I wasn't all that concerned that

the books would be lost," Requart said. The fortunate combination of early detection and sophisticated book preservation should bring, Requart estimated, a 100% recovery rate.

Despite the extensive restoration process, estimated at between \$24 and \$26 per book for over \$100,000 worth of damage, the books will not go unscathed.

"The cover might be weaker, there might be water damage, they're not in the same condition, but they will be usable materials," Higgins emphasized that this is a "very happy ending," for what could have been much worse. With Peabody housing the largest rare book collection of the Hopkins library system, Requart and Higgins said they both look forward to its return.

After a long architectural renovation, Peabody Library will open in the beginning of February as planned, with or without every book. "We may have a few empty shelves, but we're still on target," Higgins said.

Situated at the heart of Mount Vernon Place, the Library's crisis did not go unnoticed, Requart said.

"We had people expressing their concern, and calling to see if they could help," she said. "It's nice to know that so many people cared."

# Hopkins scholars win Fulbright

*Three students, one lecturer awarded*

BY LINDSAY SAXE  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Three seniors and one Writing Seminars lecturer were awarded Fulbright scholarships shortly before commencement last May.

Niall Keleher, Suman Sureshbabu, Mahnu Davar and Anthony Pirnot were among the 1125 U.S. students offered grants to study and research abroad. Those students enrolled in the esteemed Fulbright U.S. Student Program for 2003 will travel to over 140 different countries beginning this fall.

Sponsored by the State Department's Educational and Cultural Affairs Dept., the prestigious Fulbright scholarship allows students, professionals and artists the opportunity to engage in fully subsidized international exchange.

The goal of the program, established in 1946 by Senator J. William Fulbright, is to enrich American scholars with a cross-cultural exchange of ideas and customs. Students design their own program based on individual experiences, research or academic interests.

Niall Keleher, who graduated in the spring, will travel to Ecuador where he will study the shrimp industry as a case study in economic structural management.

Drawing on his experiences in Guatemala, South Africa, Tunisia and SAIS's Bologna Center in Italy,

Keleher will be looking, in particular, at the instability of the shrimp sector and its affect on

Ecuador's economy.

Keleher, who also went to Ecuador last summer, was a Woodrow Wilson Research Fellow and an Economics and International Studies major.

Suman Sureshbabu, who received a B.A. in Political Science last May, plans to travel to Ghana next week to launch a project focused on women's role in regional development. Sureshbabu's research idea spawned from a project completed in 2002, where she analyzed the lives of rural women in Ghana.

"My project is basically a combination of my past two summers at Hopkins," Sureshbabu said. After receiving the Provost Undergraduate Research Award, Sureshbabu went to India and Ghana, where she discovered that women in the region had ideas for development that were going largely unheard.

"The question is, 'how do you get [the government] to be more representative of what the people want?'" said Sureshbabu. "This is really important because in the end, no matter how much NGO's do, it's up to the governing body to decide."

As Sureshbabu sees it, the most crucial part of development is how decisions are made at the local level, and how much—or how little—the women are directly involved.

Fellow classmate Mahnu Davar, a Philosophy major, is going to India to design a series of children's books based on Hindu folktales. Davar will also be enrolled in classes at Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, a Theology and Sanskrit Language school.

Having already published a similar book in the U.S., Davar will use his skills as a cartoonist and artist to take on the much larger project in India. While at Hopkins, Davar contributed political cartoons to the News-Letter and was the managing editor of The Subcontinental, a journal of South Asian American political identity.

Visiting lecturer Anthony Pirnot was also awarded a Fulbright Scholarship, adding to his extensive

*My project is basically a combination of my past two summers at Hopkins.*

—SUMAN SURESHBABU

resume of international study. Pirnot, who was teaching at Hopkins under the Elliot Coleman Fellowship for teaching and writing, also served in the U.S. Peace Corps in Poland and subsequently taught English at the Jagiellonian University.

While in Poland this fall, Pirnot plans to do research for a novel on the influence of English and British writing on Polish literature.

The Fulbright scholars will have their traveling, school and living expenses fully paid for one year while they conduct research.

## Opinionated?

*Send Letters to the Editor to:*  
*news.letter@jhu.edu.*

*If you are interested in becoming an*  
*Opinions columnist email:*  
*opinions@jhunewsletter.com.*

# MSE Symposium announces lineup

The 2003 Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium, a lecture series organized by undergraduates since 1968, will address the theme: "The Great American Experiment: A Juxtaposition of Capitalism and Democracy."

## EVENTS

### Movies: *John Q.* and *Patch Adams*

Sept. 5, 7:30-11:30 p.m. in Schafler Auditorium

**SPEAKER: DR. PATCH ADAMS**

"At What Cost? Probing Health Care in America."

Sept. 10, 7:30-10:00 p.m. in Shriver Hall

**Movie: JFK**

Sept. 19, 8:00-11:00 p.m. in Schafler Auditorium

**SPEAKER: ANN COULTER**

"The sum of capitalism and democracy. What constitutes American?"

Sept. 25, 8:00-10:00 p.m. in Shriver Hall

**Movie: Bulworth**

Sept. 26, 8:00-10:00 p.m. in Schafler Auditorium

**SPEAKER: JOHN STOSSEL**

"Influence over information: Money in the Media."

Sept. 30, 8:00-10:00 p.m. in Shriver Hall

**Debate COLLEGE DEMOCRATS vs. COLLEGE REPUBLICANS**

Oct. 2, 7:30-9:30 p.m. in AMR I: Multipurpose Room

**Movie: Roger & Me**

Oct. 3, 8:00-10:00 p.m. in Schafler Auditorium

**SPEAKER: MICHAEL MOORE**

"Stupid White Men? The State of American Politics."

Oct. 10, 8:00-10:00 p.m. in Shriver Hall

**Movie: Erin Brockovich**

Oct. 17, 8:00-10:00 p.m. in Schafler Auditorium

**SPEAKER: PATRICIA IRELAND**

"What's Sex Got to do With it? The Gender Gap in America."

Oct. 22, 8:00-10:00 p.m. in Schafler Auditorium

# Club night cut short

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1**  
members said the actual capacity of the club was about 3000 and that the decision that the club was overcrowded was made by Redwood Trust management, not by the Orientation staff.

Associate Dean of Students Dorothy Sheppard said that students will be refunded the cost of their tickets. As of now, the club is not refunding the money Hopkins paid for the space rental. The student life office is refunding the tickets out of their own resources. Tickets cost \$7 in advance and \$10 the day of the event. Freshman will be refunded through their J-cards. Upperclassmen must bring their ticket stubs to the Student Life Office in Levering Hall to be refunded.

Though Orientation staff finalized their contract with Redwood Trust in July, the club recently came under new ownership.

"Last Thursday we got a call from them saying our contract was no longer valid because of the new ownership," Dean Sheppard said.

After some last-minute negotiations and demands for more money than originally agreed upon, the Orientation staff was able to secure the original date and time they had planned.

Six buses carrying students to Redwood Trust from the Homewood campus started running at 9:30 p.m. and ran in loops until 10:30 p.m. According to Orientation Staff members, all students had been safely returned to campus within an hour after the club closed down. Some students resorted to taking taxis home instead of waiting for the shuttles.

"It's a disappointment, but the staff did a great job of getting 1700 people back to campus," said Little.

Orientation Entertainment Chair Jessica Ambrosetti said that the Hopkins staff did the best they could under the circumstances.

In the past the event had been held at the Have a Nice Day Café at Power Plant Live. Orientation officials moved it to Trust this year because of its higher capacity and because it has become increasingly popular among current Hopkins students.

# Lax scholarships in danger

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1**  
awarding financial aid based on athletic performance. At the time that rule was passed, schools like Hopkins that were already awarding such scholarships were allowed to continue doing so.

Any vote to change that restriction would deal a particularly harsh blow to the Blue Jays. Of the school's 26 athletic teams, 24 of them compete in Division III. But the two teams that don't compete there, the men's and women's lacrosse teams, are by far the school's highest profile teams.

"Johns Hopkins University has enjoyed a great deal of success in athletics both at the Division I and Division III levels," said Dr. William Brody, President of Johns Hopkins University, in a statement released one day after the President's Council released its decision.

"My administration fully supports our Department of Athletics and we are committed to maintaining our status as a multi-divisional institution. With the support of the many schools we compete against on a regular basis, it is our intention to work within the guidelines of the NCAA against this proposal."

It is possible that the reform package will not even make it to the January meeting as it is cur-

rently worded. In October, all of the Management Council and the President's Council will convene to review all of the proposals and allow schools to submit amendments. Director of Athletics Tom Calder said that representatives from the eight affected schools would be in contact within the next several weeks to discuss how

*We are going to  
continue to compete  
at the same level and  
we're willing to do  
whatever it takes.*

—TOM CALDER

they can best fight the proposal.

"Hopkins and the other multidivisional schools, there are seven others that provide scholarships, are being proactive. We're starting to decide on what we're going to do," he said.

Should the January vote pass, Hopkins would be confronted with a number of options, none of which would be without costs.

The first option would be for Hopkins to move its entire program to Division I. Doing so would require a significant financial commitment from the school to upgrade athletic facilities and spend money on specific teams. To accommodate the rigorous Division I standards, some teams would possibly be cut to make the spending more reasonable.

Another option would be for the Blue Jays to move to Division II, where they would compete in the same sports that now compete in Division III, and where the school's lacrosse teams could still compete in Division I.

The eight affected schools could also start their own conference, where they would likely legislate rules that would permit some of their teams to compete on the Division I level.

Finally, the Jays could stay at Division III, but that would require the lacrosse programs to take a serious cut in visibility.

Regardless of the outcomes of the October and January meetings Calder says the Blue Jays will do whatever it takes to stay competitive.

"We are going to continue to compete at the same level and we're willing to do whatever it takes."

# Class '07 most diverse, selective

BY RON DEMETER

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

With the lowest acceptance rate and highest percentage of underrepresented minorities in school history, the Johns Hopkins University Class of 2007 represents an upward trend in the institution's recruiting ability.

According to John Latting, the Director of Undergraduate Admissions, "It is the smallest percentage of the applicant pool offered admission."

In the fall of 2002 10,024 freshmen applied for admission, up from 8,929 the year before. Only 2,974 of the applicants were accepted, giving the University a 29.7 percent acceptance rate for 2003. 4,604 students were denied admission, up from 2,990 the year before. An additional 1,699 applicants were placed on the wait list.

The applicant pool for admission has also become more competitive than in years past. Almost twice as many students with perfect 1600s on the SATs applied to Hopkins than in 2002. Of the 100 students with perfect 1600s who applied, 20 students were denied admission.

The freshman class consists of approximately 1,050 students. The yield, which is the percentage of accepted students who decided to attend, is 35 percent. This marks a one percentage point drop from last year's yield, which was 36 percent and was also an 11 year high.

The average SAT score for freshmen is a 1379, which is up from 1374 the year before. The class of 2005 has the highest SAT mean at 1398. The SAT median is 1390.

The class of 2007 is also by far the most diverse class Johns Hopkins has ever had. Of the approximately 1,050 freshmen, 80 of them are African American a 19 percent increase from last year. In total, 15 percent of the freshman class identify as underrepresented minorities. Seven percent of the class identify as Hispanic and one percent as Native American/Alaskan/Hawaiian/Pacific Islander.

According to Dr. Latting, there was a 50 percent rise in the number of minority applicants this year. Latting attributes the rising applicant pool to an emphasis on recruiting. Within the past few years, three staff mem-

bers were hired with the purpose of recruiting minority applicants. Admissions has also used minority students to help recruit more minority applicants. Because of this recruitment effort, Hopkins has become more selective in admitting minority students.

"Our own students are a critical resource to use as recruiting future students," said Latting. "It's one thing if an admissions officer says Hopkins is great but it's another thing if a Hopkins student who may be from your home state says the same thing."

Over the past two years the number of minority students has seen an upward trend. Underrepresented minorities made up only eight percent of the class of 2005. The Class of 2006 saw an increase in minority students to 14 percent.

Adding to the increased diversity of the freshman class is the record number of female students. A full 45 percent of the class of 2007 is female, up from 40 percent two years ago.

"We expect to move forward and not just stay where we are when it comes to campus diversity," said Latting.

# CUE calls for change

BY ERIC RIDGE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Johns Hopkins University may be providing a quality undergraduate education, but the level of student dissatisfaction with the school's academic and social environment is too high, according to the Hopkins Commission on Undergraduate Education (CUE), which released its final report in May.

The Commission's report includes significant recommendations, including a call for the school to provide on-campus housing for all students including juniors and seniors as well as appointing faculty directors for each department that has an undergraduate major. The Commission avoided taking a side on the controversial issue of changing class scheduling, instead recommending that there be further study of the issue.

In general, the findings challenge Hopkins to do more to meet the needs of its undergraduates. The commission concluded that the school's most urgent need is to "strengthen the sense of community." The report stressed that "Homewood undergraduate students report a feeling of fragmentation about their residential lives, and more generally a serious absence of community."

The commission also found that students need to "achieve a healthier sense of balance" and "the need for undergraduate education at Hopkins to be more personal."

The report also criticized Hopkins for leaving too many students "dissatisfied generally with access to faculty, class sizes and the perceived degree of faculty commitment to the undergraduate experience."

CUE was created by President William Brody and Provost Steven Knapp last year to recommend changes to improve the quality of the undergraduate education. The Commission examined four aspects of the experience: student life, diversity, the academic experience and advising and career support.

An interim CUE report was released last winter. The final report was then written after the Commission held community meetings last spring to discuss the recommendations. While there were no major changes in the final report, there were a few additions, including a recommendation that professors not be permitted to give final examinations during any time other than the designated exam period.

According to Paula Burger, CUE chair and vice dean of undergraduate education, administrators will now work on implementing the

commission's recommendations. In the near future, she said, the school will be convening the Deans of all five schools at Hopkins that offer undergraduate programs. Equipped with "cue tracking charts," they will work to make sure that the report remains in the forefront of the institution's agenda.

"The focus of the universitywide reaccreditation study is on undergraduate education and we did that to keep the focus and to keep the momentum on this," she said.

Perhaps the most closely followed topic examined in the CUE report was the issue of weekly class scheduling. The final report stayed decidedly out of the fray, opting to endorse further study of the class scheduling system rather than endorsing one particular system over another.

"The faculties of several of the schools were quite supportive of the change, but there were also active proponents of maintaining the existing schedule. Certainly there are faculty members who believe it allows them to maintain this university's high research profile. There needs to be further faculty attention," Burger said.

The recommendation to provide housing for students into their junior and senior years was also of importance. The final report recommends that Hopkins provide housing to those students who want it, regardless of their class standing.

"I don't think that we could provide for one-hundred percent of the undergraduate student body, but I don't think they all would want to be obligated to the university anyway," said Dr. Burger.

Burger said that she envisions a freshman quadrangle that would provide a cohesive experience for first year students.

# Levering 'wows' diners with new looks, food selections



VADIM GRETCHOUCHKIN/NEWS-LETTER

The newly-renovated Levering Hall food court held its grand opening on Tuesday.

BY TERESA MATEJOVSKY

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

After complaining for years about the poor dining options on campus, students return this fall to find a fully renovated food court in Levering Hall. The food court held its Grand Opening Tuesday to rave reviews.

"The new Levering looks great. The freshmen here have it so much better than we did," said junior Brian Shafa.

Gone are the dingy chairs, the over-crowded sandwich line and the Pizza Hut counter. In its place: four new food counters, ambient music, a vibrant paint job and wild retro lounge furniture. Renovations, which began in May, were jointly funded by the University and Sodhexo Marriott,

whose dining contract with the University was renewed last year.

"We wanted to bring something new and exciting. The old furniture [in Levering] was old and gloomy," said Mike Womack, Director of Retail Operations for Sodhexo.

Students have certainly noticed the changes. "The renovations look nice, but the color scheme is a little obnoxious," junior Vincent Luca said.

Nevertheless, most student feedback has been positive, Womack said. Designed using a trademark "Wow!" approach, Sodhexo has expanded food options to include pizza and pasta at Petes' Arena, a Mexican grill at Salsa Rica, sandwiches by Sub Connection and burgers and chicken at Sky Ranch grill.

"We want you to walk in and say 'wow.' Everyone at the tables

I have visited, they have got that 'wow' effect," Womack said. "They say this place is great."

Womack stressed that food quality and variety have been the most important improvements. All four vendors have vegetarian options and Salsa Rica also has vegan options. A fifth venue, Jazzman's Café, with coffee and pastries will open in the Levering lobby in early October.

"Decorations are nice, but if people like the food, you know they'll come back," Womack said.

Sodhexo also conducted price comparisons around the neighborhood in order to implement competitive food prices.

The new Levering food court is open weekdays until 2:30 p.m., with Sky Ranch grill staying open until 8 p.m. Students can pay with cash, JCash and meal points.

# Master Plan adds parking, laboratories

CONTINUED FROM A1

to create a more efficient environment for research while allowing the chemistry department to expand and hire new faculty.

Architectural firm Ballenger of Philadelphia was selected to design the building and construction firm Barton Mallow of Linthicum, Md. broke ground in May 2002. Despite delays due to inclement weather, construction was kept fairly close to schedule. The 50,000 sq. ft building cost an estimated \$18 million.

The New Chemistry Building has been designed to house research labs and faculty offices. No plans have yet been made to conduct any courses in the building.

The building will also house an

underground, state of the art Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) facility. NMR spectrometers are used to study the structure and motion of molecules under solution. The installation of these high-field NMR machines will help to modernize the Hopkins chemistry department and allow them the flexibility to remain competitive.

A new parking garage was also built just north of the Hopkins Club in conjunction with the chemistry building. The two-level garage holds 100 spaces.

Just a bit west of the chemistry building jobsite is the location of the new San Martin Center. The facility will sit in the Stoney Run stream valley below San Martin Dr. The building will serve as the new

home of the Carnegie Institution of Washington's Department of Embryology. Many scientists hold joint appointments with Johns Hopkins Biology department and the Carnegie Institute.

The building will be a three story, 79,000 square foot structure. Designed by architects Zimmer, Gunsul and Frasca of Washington, the facility will be built into the side of the hill.

A five-level parking structure will also be erected serving both Carnegie and Hopkins faculty and employees. A pedestrian bridge is also being built over San Martin drive to allow safe access for commuters using the garage.

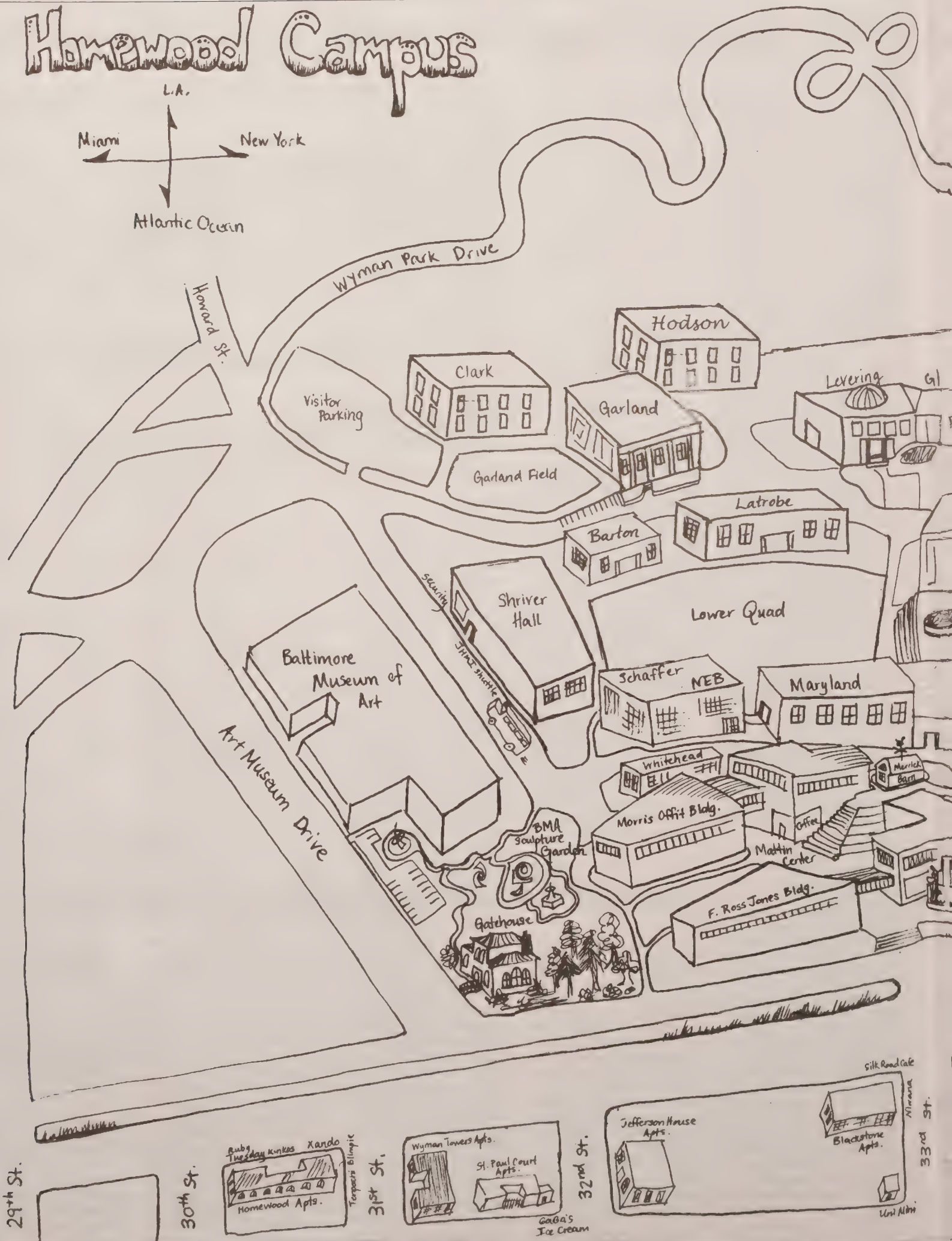
Construction on the site began in February and completion

is scheduled for fall of next year.

Following the philosophy of the Homewood Master Plan, the quad between Garland and Levering has gotten a face lift. The "Great Excavations 2" project has diverted vehicular traffic to the perimeter of the campus and replaced the asphalt walkways in front of Garland and Hodson with brick and marble. The goal has been to create a safer and more attractive campus, echoing the current campus architecture.

Plans to create a new quad for students are drawing to a close as nearly 18,000 have been laid in front of the Garland entrance. Construction around Levering Market and Latrobe Hall has been completed.

# Homewood Campus





# Someone's in the kitchen with controversy

*Major student employer has received plenty of complaints over the years. What's the real story?*

BY JEFF KATZENSTEIN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

It was Willy Loman, the tragic main character of Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*, who said that "a salesman is someone way up there in the blue, riding on a smile and a shoeshine."

Perhaps Loman was right, or maybe it just depends on for whom you're working.

The irony of Miller's famous play still rings true today, as hundreds of students have become frustrated with both the sales profession in general and more importantly, the sales practices of a certain company.

The company is Vector Marketing, a corporation that handles the sale of Cutco knives and accessories.

Haven't seen Cutco in stores? That's because they're only sold through direct selling, meaning through a sales rep in a one-on-one setting. Vector touts its selling methods as advantageous for the buyer and the seller.

"Historically, direct sales have provided individual entrepreneurs with the opportunity to bring a product to market without having to compete with large companies for shelf space," explains Sarah Baker Andrus, Vector's Director of Academic Programs.

Andrus says that the consumer also benefits from a direct sales setting, since they are able to see the features and benefits of the product through a presentation, and witness how well the product actually works.

As far as money goes, the opportunity for students is immense, as they can make anywhere between 10-50 percent commission from what they sell, depending on how much they've sold throughout their careers. With knife sets that can cost around \$1,000, most employees have no problem getting paid by commission.

"Everyone recognizes, to a certain extent, the quality of the product," says Mike Gnade, a junior at Tufts University who worked for Vector over the summer.

Hopkins Junior Emma Saunders, who worked for Vector this past summer, was among the top 15 sellers in the country for the three months that she worked out of Vector's Bergen County, N.J. office.

"I made weekly paychecks that were the equivalent of what I used to make during whole summers," says Saunders.

In addition to her hefty summer cash haul, Saunders earned a \$250 scholarship from Vector for selling so much.

However, in addition to the many employees who have made incredible amounts of money for the company, there are also a growing number of former employees who are unhappy with the company's business practices.

How bad is this anti-Vector sentiment among former employees? Only two months ago, a group of college students founded an internet group they call Students Against Vector Exploitation (SAVE). Although SAVE only has 45 members, their internet petition against Vector has over 1,400 signatures.

The core of SAVE's mission, according to their website, is to spread the word about Vector's "misleading" practices and eventually force the company to change the way it does business.

Vector, which hires mostly college students, initially brings in potential employees for individual preliminary interviews that reveal very little about the company. A select number of

*There will always be people who find something wanting, whether it's with Vector or another company.*

-SARAH BAKER ANDRUS

them are presented with a group demonstration that can last well over an hour and are then interviewed to gauge their interests.

Employees learn that they will be setting up their own appointments to sell knives, first to family and friends, and later through referrals collected from those people. Although sales reps must call people to schedule appointments and perform demonstrations in the homes of potential customers, Vector claims in many of its ads that the job requires "no telemarketing or door-to-door" sales, since its phone calls and sales presentations are not with complete strangers, and reps do not sell over the phone.

If hired, employees must attend an unpaid, three-day training period during which they learn more about the company and what they will be doing.

In addition, students are taught how to sell the knives through a step-by-step method to which em-



VADIM GRETCHOUCHKIN/NEWS-LETTER

*Knives were always dangerous to play with, but when did they become dangerous to sell?*

ployees are often encouraged to add their own personal touches. They are taught how to set up appointments, respond to excuses, present the knives and close the sale.

SAVE refers to such group settings as "cattle call interviews," and members have been known to stand in front of offices before the interviews to warn potential employees about the company. Still, Vector remains proud of its interview practices.

"The interview process is one of the most thorough company orientations that's out there," claims Andrus. "We provide extremely detailed information on who we are, what our products are, what the job is and how people will be paid."

"As far as accepting a position, you know what you're doing," says Saunders.

"When you're first starting [to sell], it seems a little shady," says Gnade. "But it's really not a big deal; most people say no if they don't have time for you."

The problems with Vector, according to SAVE, begin from the minute a potential employee spots the ad in the paper that usually only tells of a student employment opportunity that pays \$13-\$20 per appointment. The way payment works is that sales reps are either paid the minimum per appointment (whether they sell or not) or paid by commission, whichever one is more. Through this payment system, Vector claims that its employees are not driven by commission.

It is partly because of these ads that SAVE claims Vector's practices are misleading. They aren't the only ones to make such claims.

In 1998, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

found that Vector Australia had violated Australia's Trade Practices Act. Vector was found to have "engaged in conduct ... that was misleading or deceptive or likely to mislead or deceive" through their advertisements and oral representations of the company.

Vector sees it differently.

"An advertisement is never intended to give the whole story," says Andrus. "Anybody who sees a work advertisement and thinks that everything will be disclosed in the ad isn't approaching it the right way."

The list of grievances on SAVE's website goes far beyond the interview and training. SAVE has a problem, for example, with the fact that Vector makes sales reps purchase or rent their demo set of knives. Although the price is deeply discounted, the cost is still over \$150. Vector is able to do this because its employees are legally considered independent contractors, not employees.

SAVE believes that Vector encourages reps to "deceive a potential customer over the phone ... so they can get their foot in the door". The group has further concerns with representatives' legal status as independent contractors, because they are treated like employees when encouraged to attend meetings and pay for conferences.

The complaints of former Vector employees have already made waves. In addition to Vector's legal troubles in Australia, they were slapped on the wrist in 1994 for deceiving recruits in Wisconsin.

Despite the growing number of students who feel the company has manipulated them, many employees see a different picture. "I feel like the people who quit

in training were probably expecting something easy, like the company booking appointments and not caring about what they sell," Gnade explains.

Gnade also adds that different offices around the country differ in the way they train and encourage their recruits. Some stress the sale, while others stress the product.

Junior Mike Kong, who worked for Vector during the summer of 2001, agrees. "Unless you're highly motivated and have a lot of self discipline, you won't get anywhere."

"There will always be people who find something wanting, whether it's with Vector or another company," says Andrus. "Sales is not for everyone."

Gnade feels that many of the former employees who complain about Vector simply weren't cut out for the job.

Saunders continues to sing Vector's praises, and not just because of the money she made.

"The basic lesson [Vector teaches] is that you can get whatever you want as long as you work hard enough," says Saunders. "I don't know if there's a better lesson you can teach to college students who are going out in the world and figuring out what they want to do with their lives."

Scam or not, Vector marketing continues to sell over \$250 million in knives annually, despite the numerous protests by former employees.

"Over the years, Vector has consistently responded to concerns about our business to the satisfaction of everyone," claims Andrus. "If anyone from SAVE wants to address concerns, we can promise them our complete attention."

# Lazy days of summer? Not for these students

BY ALI FENWICK

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Whether crossing the globe, living back in the home, or staying put for a sweltering Baltimore summer, Hopkins students spend their time off in wide and varying ways. Some work hard waiting tables to make money for college, some spend their glorious days of freedom soaking up rays on the beach with friends, some travel and others get summer internships. A select few manage a complex and intricate combination of all these things. But all good things, summer being one of them, must come to an end. I believe Adam Sandler said it best when he uttered the immortal words, "Back to school, back to school to prove to dad that I'm not a fool."

Welcome back to campus, where in the first few days, you'll see a lot of hugging, squealing reunions and hear a lot of, "How was your summer?" Thankfully, you probably won't find yourself having to write any "What I Did This Summer" essays at Hopkins but sometimes it seems that you might as well go ahead and print out copies to have on hand for everyone who asks.

One answer you'll often get to the "what did you do?" question is "research." Many stay on for the summer to hit the books in the library and work the labs at the Medical Center, and Hopkins, being the feisty and innovative

"First Research University Ever" University that it is, certainly encourages its students to do so.

Others move to the big city and get internships in various fields. There are always a contingent of future corporate financiers, one of the few internship fields in which the interns are actually paid and paid well at that.

Carmine Petrone, a senior, for example, worked for Citigroup in New York City.

"I think [the Citigroup internship] is the best program of its kind, which is why I chose to work there this summer over other places," Petrone says.

Perks like free admittance to any NYC museum, meals, sedan service home and free gym membership, certainly helped offset the 90 plus hours per week that Petrone worked.

Other New York City interns, paid less but more rested, included senior Emily Stecker, who worked at the headquarters of Teach for America, senior Audrey Pinn, who worked at Hilary Rodham Clinton's campaign headquarters, and senior Emily Mayer, who worked as a production assistant at WPIX, New York City's local WB network television station.

Still, many Hopkins students aren't satisfied to intern within the continental United States. They have to go global. Senior Anna Stirgwort spent her summer interning in the Office of Naval Research for the U.S. Embassy in Santiago, Chile after



COURTESY OF ALI FENWICK

Senior Ali Fenwick, author, and fellow interns pose with a New York character for Grey Advertising.

spending her junior spring abroad there. Stirgwort put her engineering background to use and collaborated with local scientists on developing lithium battery technology in Chile. Government positions like this are not only fantastic experiences but are also opportunities to meet top political personalities. Stirgwort met Secretary of State Colin Powell along with several other foreign dignitaries during their tour of the country.

Rushmi Ramakrishna, a junior, interned at a bank in the south of France through a summer study abroad program. According to Ramakrishna, the language barrier wasn't too much of a problem, although it was two weeks before she realized she had been

using the men's room because the bathrooms weren't labeled at all.

Fellow classmate Arielle Goren took advantage of the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit Cuba through the Center for Cross-Cultural Study, since the usual Johns Hopkins Cuba Exchange Program, in conjunction with the School of Advanced International Studies and the University of Havana, was cancelled this year. According to Goren, the best and worst part of being in Cuba was being in Cuba.

"It wasn't an easy place to be, coming from the States," Goren says. "It was very eye-opening in terms of differences but more so in terms of similarities."

Then there are the proud few who stick it out for a summer in

Baltimore. These folks usually balance a combination of classes and local internships. Julie Barro, a senior IR major, took a grad school prep class and worked at Legg Mason. With a background in finance that she calls "nonexistent," Barro was able to learn as she went and had a great time, all while getting a few credits out of the way to help her graduate early.

Hopkins students are an enterprising lot. Go ahead and ask that acquaintance what he or she did this summer.

The answers you'll get will show you that you don't have to wait for school to start after all; you can use the summer to prove to your dad that you're not a fool, year-round.

## BMA showcases Americans abroad in new exhibit

It's hard to deny something irrepressibly cool about artistic expatriates, about going abroad to make a name for yourself and to learn from the masters. It's the idea of striking a pose — of Hemingway quaffing wine in a Parisian café or Gauguin building a shack in Tahiti for his native lovers — that makes artists seem like the only true adventurers. It is with this same adventurous spirit that the Baltimore Museum of Art put together its current exhibition, "Whistler and Cassatt: Americans Abroad," a small survey of prints by two of the most important American painters of the nineteenth century.

James Abbott McNeill Whistler first ventured to Europe in 1856 and made London his home a few years later. His best-known paintings are his bleak, cathartic portraits, usually done with solemn flesh tones and gray backdrops. The BMA selections, however, focus more on Whistler's early works of

cityscapes, etched mostly in the stockyards along the Thames and in the canals of Venice.

The most striking thing about Whistler's prints is the grace of his draftsmanship. Each image rises out of a mess of shadowy detail, becoming sharper as it gets farther from the borders. What comes across in the end is an image with an utterly consistent tone. You can feel the dreary weather, the dampness, the decay, the crumbling stone arches. Occasionally, these architectural sketches, which already have something of a human feel to them, will include human figures so lonely that they predict the solitude of the artist's later work.

The Whistler prints also show a peculiar (Freudian) fascination with doors, portals, entryways — holes in general. His Venetian series, particularly prints like *The Traghetto* and *The Beggars*, show the dark maws of passageways, tunnels, and doors yawning amidst the ornate Italian ma-

sonry. Each elegant print reminds us that we are looking through eyes inspired by the stately aesthetic of Europe.

The parlor sketches of the young Mary Cassatt stand in sharp contrast to her American counterpart in the next room in

### ROBBIEWHELAN

#### Ear To The Ground

that they are almost all indoors. Cassatt is most famous for her depictions of mother and child scenes and of the beauty of mundane maternal tasks, and the BMA exhibition is no exception. On the Cassatt side we find images of women sewing, dressing, and nursing babies.

When Cassatt arrived in Paris in 1864, she soon became associ-

ated with the artists, critics and aesthetes of the famous Salon school. After appearing in the Salon exhibitions for about a decade, she became fed up with the stodgy conservative mindset of the school and started to work with many of the Impressionists, particularly Edgar Degas. Among other things, Degas impressed upon Cassatt the importance and potential of color, and the BMA prints are accordingly a showcase of Cassatt's palette.

Several of the color prints show Cassatt's typical Impressionist fascination with Eastern art. The color schemes and overlapping textures echo the Japanese wall-hangings that Cassatt's contemporaries so loved. The difference here is that Cassatt combines the Japanese format with her mother-with-child subject matter, which has a distinctly non-Eastern feel. This contradiction ends up feeling entirely appropriate. An image of a mother nursing her in-

fant child has more warmth and charm for its organic shapes and smooth Eastern outlines.

After a quick look, this exhibit is pretty quiet. While it lacks the bombast and hoopla of traveling shows with big-name paintings from well-endowed collectors, the exhibit abounds with expatriate cool. These are sketches from when Whistler and Cassatt were just impressionable kids bumming around Europe looking for inspiration. Well, actually, both were pretty wealthy, so there wasn't much bumming at all, but you get the idea. These are just two young artists, talented and over stimulated, seeing the world firsthand. It's the kind of thing that could inspire anyone, if not to paint, then at least to get the hell out of Baltimore and over to Europe.

*The Cassatt and Whistler: Americans Abroad* exhibit runs through Oct. 12 at the Baltimore Museum of Art. Admission is free with a valid J-Card.

# Barnstormers open season with *The Butler Did It*

BY ROBBIE WHELAN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

"*The Butler Did It*," says Tony, a character played by Ben Kingsland in the Barnstormers upcoming production of said play, "is a classic whodunnit."

I know what you're thinking. Why, you ask, is one of the characters in this play talking about the show in which he is acting? And if it really is a classic whodunnit, then why is the title of the show so clear about letting the audience know, well, who done it?

I know, theater can be confusing, but just relax. The answers are coming. First of all, *The Butler Did It*, the JHU Barnstormer's inaugural play of the 2003-2004 season, is *not* a classic whodunnit. Rather, it is a play about a play called *The Butler Did It*, which is a classic whodunit. Scratching your head yet?

The characters are Tony, the director, and his five actors, who are struggling to get a hold of the feeling of their play. Their on-stage reactions are unnatural, the male lead keeps on forgetting his lines, and the cast prima donna is blackmailing the director for a better role. To top it all off, Tony's career is on the line. After several recent fail-

ures, he needs *The Butler Did It* to be a hit, for reasons of both money and reputation. Tony's agent, Lester (who we only encounter during phone conversations), keeps telling Tony he lacks the "handle" needed for *The New York Times* article and the publicity he so desires.

So that brings me to the second quandary — the title. The title of the show really doesn't matter, because the play is complex enough that who did what, who killed who — none of that really matters. The key to the plot's mystery lies in the layered subplots and character sketches. Co-writers Walter and Peter Marks have sculpted their wordplay into a logical mess that is somewhere between Durrenmatt's *The Physicists* and a rousing game of Clue.

As for the Barnstormers, they give a lot of heart to a play that has only slight potential outside of a Dinner Theatre setting. Kingsland plays the role of director with the toothy-grinned enthusiasm and bravado that the script calls for, but fails to capitalize on how pathetic Tony really is. His enthusiasm seems to come from a bubbly character rather than from the desperation of a has-been.

The rest of the cast, while over-

shadowed by Kingsland's presence, seems to be having a lot of fun throughout. Junior Diana Iskelov does beautifully with the part of Natalie, the modest-but-sexy, matinee actress, but isn't convincing in her portrayal of a vindictive blackmailer. Natalie's womanizing, cheesily Italian, actor boyfriend Michael, played by junior Jamie Graziano, is a fun portrait, but his Brooklyn Italian accent falters inexplicably as he raises his voice into lines like, "People don't just die in hospitals like that. What are hospitals for?"

By the final curtain, it's clear that the Barnstormers, this time under the direction of senior Brad Fuller, have put together perhaps the perfect show for opening a season and for a new incoming class. Some clever dialogue, a small cast, and a murder mystery are just the right cocktail for a new audience unbroken to the stylings of their company. As they the season progresses, the Barnstormers will surely get warmed up and begin to tackle the heavier stuff, but for now, *The Butler Did It* is a worthy overture.

*The Butler Did It* opens Friday night at 8 p.m. at the Swirnow Theater in the Mattin Center.



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

Natalie (junior Diana Iskelov) acts out a death scene as co-star Mark Shaffer looks on, in the play within a play, *The Butler Did It*.

## Studios serve up rotten batch of summer cinema

BY COURTNEY RICE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

"Bad and Baderer" pretty much sums up this summer's movie fare, save a few successes that caught us by surprise. In the stale movie environment that produced rubbish like the Jen and Ben debacle *Gigli*, it wasn't just the expected failures, à la *Dumb and Dumber*, that met with box office demise.

Some films were simply poorly timed for summer audiences. Take, for instance, *Down with Love*, a semi-promising comedic romp with Renee Zellweger and Ewan McGregor. This witty sex comedy done in early 1960's style was actually somewhat clever but certainly not suited to the summer movie franchise, where children and teens rule the box office. *Open Range*, Kevin Costner's cheesy western, is another ex-

ample of poor timing; in the middle of the summer, I was the only person under 50 in the theater.

The summer's action flick fix was provided by *X2*, *Hulk*, and *Charlie's Angels 2: Full Throttle*. *X2* worked — worked well, in fact — easily outselling its predecessor. Rather than rehashing old stories or relying solely on special effects to carry the film, *X2* provided both the brains and brawn needed for a summer comic book flick.

*Hulk*, however, suffered under the poor leadership of director Ang Lee (*Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*). While Lee is a certainly a gifted director, none of his previous work indicated a propensity for Spider-Man-esque success. *Hulk* became too heavy and ponderous to stay afloat. Chuck and his Angels had the opposite problem; their sequel became a parody of the original, providing ridiculously improbable stunts and three half naked babes acting goofy, but relatively little plot to weave it all together.

Then there were the sequels that should never have been. *Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde* is a prime example. Yes, the first time around the Barbie-

meets-Harvard plot had a lot of charm and appeal, becoming a surprise box office success. However, I for one was certainly not clamoring to find out what happens in the next chapter of Elle's life. The studios need to let creative vision, rather than greed, direct their choices of sequels. Ditto for Lara Croft's return and *T3*.

Perhaps the biggest disappointment was a sequel that had the most potential for creative vision — *The Matrix Reloaded*. The original *Matrix* was an impressive marriage of a complex, intelligent plot with some of the most innovative action sequences to date. It immediately garnered a mass cult following and left enough questions unanswered to practically guarantee a successful sequel. Sadly, *Reloaded* took the path of *Charlie's Angels*, delivering some truly awesome special effects but watering down the plot and depositing pretentious philosophical musings in small and annoying nuggets throughout the film instead of weaving them seamlessly into the story. While it rode to box office success on the coattails of the popularity of the first in the series, it can hardly be called a success.

A few underdogs, however,

provided some quality entertainment to salvage the summer for moviegoers. One of the best was a movie about a pair of underdogs, namely a too-small horse and his too-tall jockey. Movies like *Seabiscuit* don't often do well in the summer months, but this moving film left audiences everywhere cheering — literally.

Disney, however, wins the Triple Crown this summer. First, *Finding Nemo*, arguably the best film of the summer, created the perfect blend of humor, clever animation, and a cast of sea creatures more human than most of the bland characters in this summer's live action films.

Then, *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl* caught everybody by surprise. Who knew that a film based on a Disney theme park ride could be so good? Its success comes largely from its unlikely star, Mr. Johnny "Liquid Sex in those Dreds" Depp.

And perhaps most surprisingly, Disney's remake of the classic *Freaky Friday* left audiences in stitches and marked the comeback of actress Jamie Lee Curtis.

Finally, some indie films found success this summer, most notably the charming *Bend It Like Beckham* and the English horror film, *28 Days Later* ... All in all a good summer for the Brits.

### OUT AND ABOUT

ROBBIE WHELAN

The new moon is ridin' high in the crown of the metropolis ... I can feel the city breathin', kid. For starters, and for all you filthy tie-dyed deadheads, The Golden Road Grateful Dead Tribute Band is taking the stage at the Recher Theatre in Towson. For all you freshmen, the Recher is probably top two or three sweetest places to see a show around here, so if sunshine daydreamin' is your thing, check this out.

Down at the Mission Space gallery in Mt. Vernon place, there is a beautiful exhibit of paintings by Drury Bynum, who, aside from having an awesome name, is a great introduc-

tion to the sights and scenes of Baltimore. Oil paint-style.

Perhaps the rockiest thing of all to see, or at least the one you won't see in any other city besides fair Mobtown, is the High Zero experimental music festival, which starts Thursday night and continues until Sunday with evening concerts at the Theatre Project downtown and daily street shows along the Inner Harbor Walkway. There is nowhere else around here where you can listen to the squawking of bands called Pickup Truck Marimba Band, The Water Taxi Band, and the Honkers, and have people all around who don't find any of it at all weird. It is art, after all ...



VADIM GRETCHOCHKIN/FILE PHOTO

Hopkins will battle the No. 2 team in the region, TCNJ, this week.

## W. Soccer starts 2-0; ranks No. 19 in poll

BY JON ZIMMER

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Coming on the heels of a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Meredith College in the season opener on Saturday, Aug. 30, the Johns Hopkins Women's Soccer team completed a successful weekend. The Blue Jays followed with another win the following day, as they handily beat Roanoke College by the score of 2-1.

Sophomore forward Meg McIntosh put home the game winner, converting a pinpoint crossing pass from junior defender Sandra Lebo.

Freshman Lindsay Kimura gave the Blue Jays a 1-0 advantage earlier in the game, registering her first career collegiate goal.

McIntosh, who scored nine goals as a freshman last season, improved her career point total to 20 with the tally. She figures to be a developing offensive weapon as she matures and the season progresses.

In fact, Hopkins roster boasts nine freshmen this season, many of which are figuring to contribute right away.

"It was obvious that we have a lot of depth this year and that it will push everyone to play at the top of their game," said junior Jenn Sciarpetti of Hopkins' bevy of offensive weapons.

Senior midfielder Erinn Sosa also played an integral role on the offensive end of the field against Roanoke, assisting on both Blue Jay scores.

"A lot of different people contributed this weekend," Lebo said after the game. "We have some tough games coming up in the next couple weeks so we will have to step it up, but we will definitely come out with some big wins."

The Hopkins' goalies, senior Annie Adamczyk and sophomore Jen Goebel, combined for five saves in the winning effort.

Senior forward Jessica Sapienza, who has notched a goal in every Hopkins opener of her career, scored the lone goal of the game for Hopkins against Meredith College. Lebo also assisted on that goal on a well-executed crossing pass.

The Meredith victory marked the Blue Jays' fourth consecutive opening day win.

"It was nice to come out of this weekend with two wins," said Lebo, who also played on the Women's Lacrosse team this past spring.

Despite winning both games of the tournament, Hopkins finished in the runner-up position behind Christopher Newport, which beat Meredith 3-1 on Saturday, due to the goal differential.

Based in part on the strength of their victories this weekend, the Jays have earned a No. 19 ranking in the most recent NSCAA/Adidas Division III National Rankings, which were released on Monday, Sept. 1, putting them in the upper echelon of Division III.

In addition, the Blue Jays also share the No. 3 ranking in the Mid-Atlantic region with Elizabethtown.

"We need to work on some things and get used to playing together, but this team shows a lot of promise," said Sciarpetti. "We are all looking forward to seeing what we can do in the conference and beyond."

Hopkins' next opponent will be the College of New Jersey, currently No. 2 in the region, which will travel to Homewood Field this Thursday, Sept. 4.

# Jays look forward to 2004

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12

to one goal. But Syracuse sophomore Kyle Olson responded with a goal of his own, his fourth of the season.

Ford, assisted by Boland, netted a man-up goal soon after, while LeSueur and Boland scored unassisted goals later in the quarter. When the first half horn sounded, Syracuse still owned a 7-6 lead.

"During halftime we rededicated ourselves to the game of lacrosse and prepared to grind [the game] out for the next 30 minutes," said Hopkins' head coach Dave Pietramala, who was a defenseman for the Blue Jays the last time they won the NCAA Tournament in the '80s. "In the second half we played our kind of lacrosse, aided by the face-off wins, wing men and ground ball pick-ups."

The second half represented Hopkins' most impressive stretch of the season, as the offense was clicking on all cylinders. Sophomore face-off specialist and midfielder Kyle Harrison started the half with an unassisted goal 14:35 into the game, which evened up the score 7-7. Goals by Ford, Benson and Barrie brought the score to 10-7 Hopkins at the end of the period. The Blue Jays never looked back.

"In the second half our offense took control of the ball," said sophomore defenseman Tom Garvey.

Benson, who scored three goals down the stretch, appropriately punctuated the Blue Jay run, bringing his goal total to 40 on the season. He would add one more to that number in the champion-



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KORENPNWS-LETTER

Sophomore attackman Kyle Barrie ducks around a defender.

ship. Scherr finished the game with 15 saves. Syracuse sophomore goalie Jay Pfeifer had 12 saves, seven of which came in the first half.

"We can't put our finger on one thing that contributed to our second half run, the face-offs did help and we were relaxed as a team," said Pietramala. "Our schedule helped us (11-0 and 7-1 runs at Towson), as well as the great confidence the players have for each other and their selflessness."

Unfortunately, few will remember the furious offensive explosion and blowout semifinal win over Syracuse as much as the frustrating final against the Cavaliers.

On the positive side, the Blue Jays will be stacked again for the

*"This has been a long journey... we are not even close to being satisfied."*

HOPKINS HEAD COACH DAVE PIETRAMALA

## M. Soccer ready to defend C.C. Crown

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12

attack; we play a big supporting role so to speak" said sophomore defender Jeff Grosser. "We worked hard to keep the ball out of the net and to assist our midfielders and forwards this weekend. The tournament was a good way to start off the season," added Grosser.

The Jays ran away with the lead in the second half, scoring six more unanswered goals. The freshman class played strong, with midfielders Ben McAbee, Rocco Francica and Moath Hamzeth all scoring in the second half.

The Hopkins goalies, junior Gary Kane and freshman Dan Coble, combined on the shutout for Hopkins in both games.

Simon, Jacobson, McAbee and sophomore midfielder Manbaj Gill were named All-Tournament players for Hopkins.

Under the tutelage of Hopkins head coach Matt Smith, Hopkins went 17-3 last season, including their fifth undefeated conference record (9-0) in the last seven years. The team advanced the NCAA Tournament before falling to eventual national champion Messiah.

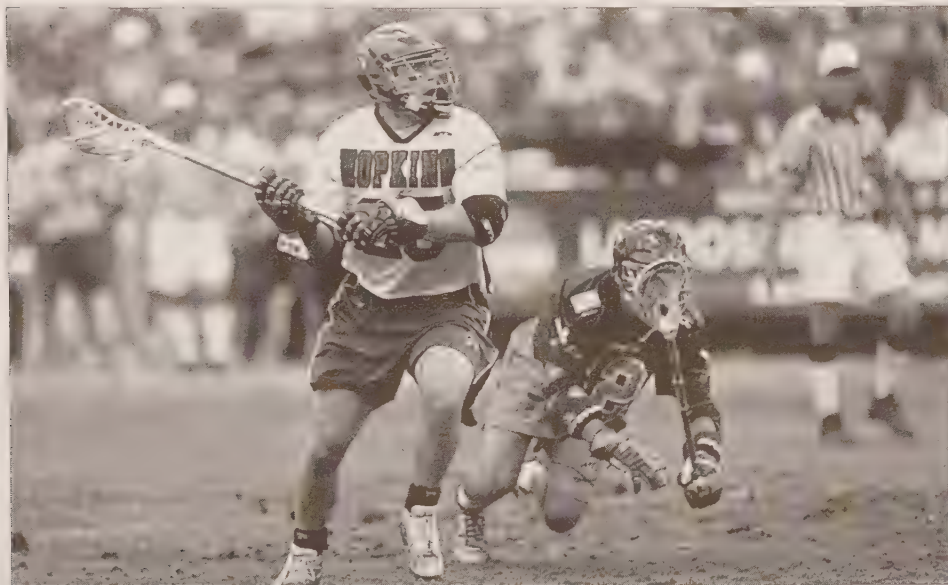
"What I think so far is that the team has a lot of potential," said Smith, who is entering his 11<sup>th</sup> season as head coach. "As long as our focus can be on improving and playing our best, then we could have a very successful year."

Contributions by Kaitlin Flynn

coming season. Barrie, Harrison, Lesueur, Boland and McDermott will all be returning, and will make up the nucleus of a formidable offensive unit. Add into the mix Duke transfer Matt Rewkowski, who led the Blue Devils in scoring last spring, and the Blue Jays will be tough to stop.

"This has been a long journey... we are not even close to being satisfied," said Pietramala before the heart-breaking loss in the finals.

No doubt, that sentiment will carry over to next spring. And the 2004 Blue Jays will have the talent to make another run at the title. Will they be able to do it? Players, coaches and fans alike are excited to see if they can.



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

Senior midfielder Adam Doneger, now in the MLL, winds up for a shot on UVA's Tillman Johnson.

## Cavs' Johnson too much for Hopkins in NCAA Tourney

BY CLAIRE KOEHLER AND  
JON ZIMMER

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

2003 was supposed to be the year. The Johns Hopkins men's lacrosse team, equipped with plenty of scoring weapons and a lights-out close defense unit, was poised to make its first NCAA Championship run in 16 years.

After finishing the regular season ranked No. 1, the Jays also had the advantage of playing close to home at Ravens Stadium for the tournament. And with an 18-9 shellacking of defending national champion Syracuse in the semifinal, the Virginia Cavaliers represented the final obstacle.

Unfortunately, Hopkins ran into a red-hot Cavalier netminder in Tillman Johnson and struggled to get any sort of offensive rhythm, losing in the championship game by a score of 9-7.

UVA, which lost 8-7 to the Jays in a regular-season matchup at Homewood Field, wasted no time in taking control of the title game, coming out with a 5-0 run in the early going that put Hopkins behind the eight ball from the start. Forced to play catch-up for the rest of the game, the Blue Jays struggled mightily with the rain-soaked turf, but even more so with Johnson.

Perhaps the most critical and telling series of the game was when Johnson turned away three consecutive point-blank Hopkins shots in the second half, keeping the momentum with Virginia. The stretch was so impressive it made the Top Ten Plays on ESPN's SportsCenter later that day.

"We put ourselves in a hole in the first quarter and you can't do that with a team of their caliber," said Johns Hopkins head coach Dave Pietramala after the game. "A lot of the credit goes to Virginia. I don't want to take anything away from them, I thought they played a great game. I thought we played much better in the final three quarters, but you're not going to beat a team at this level giving them a five-goal lead."

Hopkins battled back to make the score 5-3 after a run sparked by junior Joe McDermott, who was the unlikely hero of the overtime win against Maryland earlier in the season. Senior attackman Bobby Benson and junior long-stick middle Corey Harned followed with back-to-back goals of their own in the span of just nine seconds to cut the deficit to two.

Though still trailing at halftime, the Jays, who also found themselves behind Syracuse in the semifinals at half, came out with confidence they could reverse their fortunes in the third and fourth quarters.

Nevertheless, Johnson and Co. held off every Blue Jay run in the second half, and took home the NCAA Tournament crown when all was said and done. Johnson amassed 13 saves, while senior middle A.J. Shannon registered four goals — three of which came amidst the 5-0 opening run — in the Cavalier victory.

A bright spot for the Jays in the loss was senior midfielder Adam Doneger, and his pair of goals. Barrie chipped in with one goal and one assist and junior attackman Conor Ford had two

assists. Senior goaltender Rob Scherr totaled 12 saves, nine of which came in the second and third quarters, as the Blue Jays slowly got back in it.

After running away with the Syracuse game, it seemed nobody could stop the Hopkins offense. The only team to beat them this season, Syracuse, was helpless in the midst of a furious 14-0 second-half run by the Jays before a crowd of 37,823 at Ravens Stadium. The Orangemen finished the season at 10-6 after suffering their worst NCAA Tournament loss ever.

Though the Hopkins offense exploded in the second half, it had a tough time getting going at the outset against Syracuse.

"We didn't get our momentum going until the second half, after we got the jitters out and began to get the ball in our stick," said junior Kevin Boland in the post-game press conference.

The first quarter ended with Hopkins trailing 4-1. The lone Blue Jay goal was scored by McDermott and assisted by Boland. Syracuse's big gun, junior Michael Powell, the NCAA Tournament Player of 2002, had two assists in the first period. They turned out to be his only points of the game.

Approximately five minutes into the second frame, sophomore attackman Kyle Barrie registered his first of four goals, with the assist by fellow sophomore attackman Peter LeSueur.

Fourteen seconds later a surprise goal by junior long-stick midfielder Corey Harned, his first of the season, narrowed the gap

CONTINUED ON PAGE A11

## Jays dominate in season openers

BY CLAIRE KOEHLER  
THE JOHNS-HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

This past weekend the Johns Hopkins men's soccer team took its first kick towards defending its Centennial Conference championship, winning the 2003 Dr. Al Tucci Kickoff Classic held at Homewood Field. Shutting out both SUNY Farmingdale (8-0) on Friday and Villa Julie College (7-0) on Saturday, the Jays looked poised to make another run at the title.

After making quick work of Farmingdale, Hopkins continued to dominate the following day, blanking Villa Julie College as well. The Jays quickly took possession of the ball in the first half, keeping Villa Julie on the defensive, building a 3-0 heading into halftime. Sophomore forward Adam Simon, who scored the first goal of the day, was named the Offensive MVP of the Kickoff Classic. He also registered an assist, feeding senior forward Chad Tarabolous for a goal in the 16th minute. Francica scored the last goal of the first half with just over 20 minutes remaining.

The second half brought more of the same for Hopkins. Simon fed Tarabolous once again on a well-executed pass across the middle, giving the Jays a 4-0 over the Mustangs. Following a fluke goal on a seemingly easy save missed by the VJC goalkeeper, the Blue Jays punctuated their tournament victory with two more goals, one of which was scored by sophomore midfielder Trip Neil

and the other by senior midfielder Mike Poston.

"The tournament this weekend was a nice warmup to prepare us for the challenges that lie ahead," said Poston. "Our team is very offensive minded, as shown by the amount of goals and the many different scorers we had in each game."

Hopkins had six different players find the net versus Villa Julie, a well-rounded offensive effort.

"Another great aspect of our team is our depth," added Poston. "We can substitute in any position and still maintain a high level of play. Now these were not the hardest teams we are going to face this year, but it was a nice place to start to build our confidence."

In the season opener, the Blue Jays dominated SUNY Farmingdale. The win marked the 11th straight year Hopkins has won its opening game. Farmingdale was so overmatched, the Rams did not even manage to get off one shot on goal. The Blue Jays outshot their opponents 37-0.

Hopkins scored twice in the first half, as junior midfielder Chris Brown scored an unassisted goal early on and sophomore midfielder Traver Davis made it 2-0 after converting a feed from sophomore defenseman Jeremy Jacobson. Farmingdale never recovered.

For his stellar play on the defensive end, Jacobson was named the Defensive MVP of the Classic. "Defense is our first link of

CONTINUED ON PAGE A11



VADIM GRETCHOUCHKIN/FILE PHOTO

M. Soccer, with two wins this weekend, is ranked No. 13 in DIII.

# To be or not to be a drama geek

Come strut and fret your hour upon the Hopkins stage — or watch someone else do it

By Diana Iskelov

Are you the one who's known for taking center stage? Always wanted to play with cool sound equipment? Or perhaps, you're that sketchy sort of comedian ... Well, whatever your theatrical tastes, Hopkins is sure to offer just the venue for you to air your dramatic side.

With a myriad of opportunities ranging from sketch comedy to improv to mainstage musical and dramatic productions, theater at Hopkins is thriving.

As the oldest and largest student organization on campus, the JHU Barnstormers present five major productions each school year — an Orientation show, the Freshman One Acts, a mainstage fall dramatic production, an Intersession show, as well as a major spring musical. Past performances have included *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *Rumors*, and *The Secret Garden*.

Falling under the wing of the Barnstormers, Throat Culture is a sketch comedy group devoted to improv and skit performances.

Writing all of their own material, the group presents several shows each year in the Arellano Place of Assembly.

In a similar vein, The Buttered Nibbles offer a motley of improvisational and skit productions, and are

always a student favorite.

The Dunbar Hughes Theatre Company, a group that presents African-American interest productions, has garnered tremendous praise for its powerful performances.

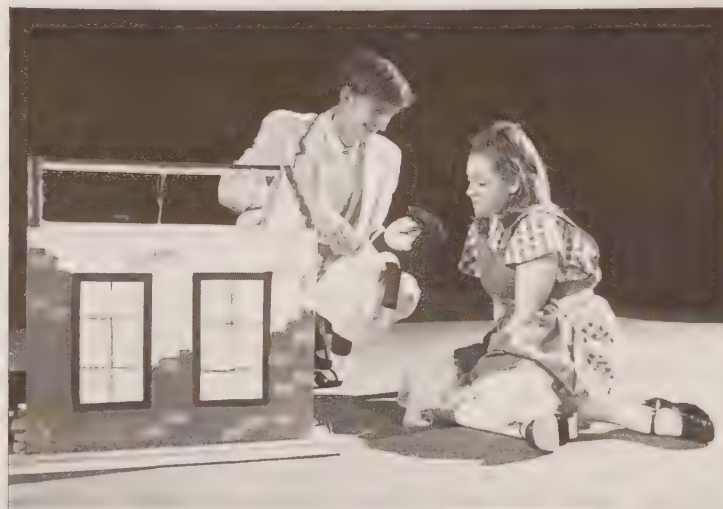
Recent hits include an adaptation of Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* as well as *A Raisin in the Sun*.

Do you see yourself as a budding playwright? If you've been drawn to the allure of producing, directing and acting in a production of your own creation, Witness Theatre may be just the group for you.

Boasting a wide array of talent, the group accepts proposals of student-written plays for production each semester, and presents each show with student directors and actors.

For a more professional spin, Theatre Hopkins, which presents performances in the "Barn" several times a year, is a community favorite that allows students as well as professional actors to audition for roles in productions. Getting paid to act? Now we're talking!

So why theater at Hopkins? Most of the people I know never thought Hopkins was a school with a decent



FILE PHOTO

*The Secret Garden* was one of many plays performed by the Barnstormers.

theater lineup. But when I attended my first show freshman year, *Two for the Tango* in Swirnow, to see one of my friends perform, I was astounded by the talent and enthusiasm the actors displayed on stage.

"We may look like we're all about studying, but there's definitely a vibrant presence of dramatic talent on this cam-

pus," says Tima Budica, a junior International Studies major.

Sounds good enough to me! So what are you waiting for? Whether you're interested in acting, producing, or simply coming out to watch your friends and have a good time, Hopkins theater is sure to have something to please your palette.

## For your pick of flicks ...

By Andy Moskowitz

It's happened more than once — a dreary eyed, exhausted freshman flops down on his dorm room bed and has the horrifying revelation that he hasn't left Charles Village in over a month. Trust me, it's a dirty, dirty feeling, but it's one that's easily alleviated. What better way than to connect with the outside world than seeing a movie? After all, the movies are of the few shared cultural experiences left in America.

Without a car, taking in a flick can be tough around here. And if you're into the limited release, artsy stuff, it's even tougher. But with a little ingenuity, pluck, and this article as your guide, you shouldn't have too much trouble finding your way to le cinema.

### AMC Towson Commons

\$8.50; \$6 student

A lot of Hopkins kids go here to take in blockbusters and other popular fare. It's right down York Road, which is hyper-convenient, plus the Towson Town Centre is just up the road. You can park in the lot next door for just \$1 with validation, or you can take the Colltown Shuttle — just make sure that your movie doesn't end after the last

shuttle leaves because the cab ride is pricey.

### The Charles

\$7; \$5 matinee before 6 p.m.

Five screens, stadium seating

*Spellbound*. *Whale Rider*. *Capturing the Friedmans*. If these movies were the cornerstones of your summer movie experience, then the Charles is the theater for you. But the bad news is that it's just about the only theater for you. That is, it's one of two theaters in Baltimore that shows limited release films (the other is listed below). Love it or hate it, you're stuck. Every Saturday, the Charles offers revivals of classic films, like *Spartacus* and *Julius Caesar*. The shows are at noon and cost \$5. Check <http://www.thecharles.com> for monthly schedules.

### The Rotunda Cinematheque

\$5 Mon-Thu; \$8 Fri-Sun

Two screens

The Rotunda is your best bet if you don't have a car: walk up W. University Parkway and make a left on 40th Street. Keep walking till you get there; it's connected to the Giant and Rite Aid. They tend to mix and match limited release films with major studio productions, so call ahead.

### The Senator

\$8 all ages, all shows

One HUGE screen

The Senator is one of the biggest and oldest screens in Maryland. Founded around 1939, the Senator is a vital piece of film history, and some of the biggest John Waters and Barry Levinson films have premiered there. They only have one screen, but it's absolutely gigantic.

They usually show current films, but once in a while they'll get a gorgeous print of a classic and project it. Last year's highlights included a restored version of *Metropolis* and a 70mm print of *Lawrence of Arabia*.

### Muvico Egyptian 24

\$9, no student discount

24 screens, stadium seating, digital sound

This ancient Egyptian-themed monstrosity is really far away (all the way in Hanover) but if you can make it out there, it's worth the trip at least once. Between the grandiose entrance columns, the faux-hieroglyphic murals painted across the walls and the fact that everything's made out of hollow plastic, it's enough to make you say "I love you, America."

## LE CINEMA LOCALES

Get off campus and head out to a movie:

AMC Towson Commons 8  
York Rd. and Penn. Ave., Towson  
(410) 825-5233

Charles Theatre  
1711 N. Charles St.  
(410) 727-3456

Loews White Marsh 16  
White Marsh Blvd. and I-95,  
White Marsh  
(410) 933-9034

Muvico Egyptian 24  
7000 Arundel Mills Circle,  
Hanover  
(443) 755-8992

Rotunda Cinematheque  
711 W. 40th St.  
(410) 235-4800

Senator Theatre  
5904 York Rd.  
(410) 435-8338

# Work off the "freshman 15"

*Build a buff, bodacious body wearing next to nothing at the campus rec center*

By Teresa Matejovsky

We Hopkins students are known traditionally for our brains, not our brawn. The University gains renown for its science, not its sports. It used to be that, here, only varsity athletes worked out. The rest of us made do toning mental muscle.

For years, the gloomy old 1930s Newton H. White Athletic Center, renovated in the 1960s, sufficed for the entire campus. People scuttled to and from the library, but avoided the gym like the plague. Non-varsity students who dared to venture in found dusty, airless rooms full of jocks pumping iron. Most fitness enthusiasts couldn't even recognize the dinosaur machines that lined the cinderblock cell rooms. Rumor had it that the two treadmills in the basement struggled to hit 5 m.p.h..

Then, after drooling for months over the new gym at Loyola College, Hopkins fitness buffs finally got their own workout mecca: The Ralph O'Conner Recreation Center opened Jan. 22, 2002 as a godsend to withering muscles all over campus.

Now, one and a half years later, the rec center draws people like a magnet, invigorating students with bright paint, big windows and the inspiration of other sweating bodies. Here, there are cardio machines, an indoor track and basketball courts that don't kick people off for varsity team practices. Students flock for physical activity and intramural sports.

Ready...

Whatever your fitness fancy, the rec center has 63,000 sq. feet of space for it. It boasts the Pepsi Fitness Center (the ensemble of a 3,000 sq. foot fitness room and a 2,500 sq. foot weight room), a hanging track, three basketball courts in the 18,000 sq. foot Robert Scott Gymnasium, three convertible racquetball/squash courts and a 30-foot student-run climbing wall.

There also are plenty of mats and open spaces for stretching and hard-core crunches, with water fountains nearby. If that doesn't get you in the mood to pump some iron, the vending machines downstairs provide ample fueling. Clean cubbies are conveniently placed in the fitness and weight rooms to stash your keys and t-shirts while you work out.

Upstairs, there are two fitness classrooms. Downstairs, you'll find the towel service and access to the pool and natatorium of the varsity athletic center.

Get set...

Needless to say, the University administration slightly underestimated turnout when they commissioned the \$14 million rec center.

Hopkins affiliates at the E. Baltimore medical campus didn't want to miss out on the fab new Homewood facility, ei-

ther. The rec center now admits any Hopkins undergrad, grad or med student, faculty, staff, alumni and spouses. Faculty, staff and non-Homewood students pay \$90/year and alumni pay \$240/year. Homewood students have free

*It used to be that, here, only varsity athletes worked out. The rest of us made do toning mental muscle.*

membership with tuition.

Put it all together and you'll find page-long wait lists at peak hours. The rec center now attracts about 1,300 people each day, according to Paul Jacobus, Assistant Director of Recreation for Facilities.

Go! (at the right time)

Despite its rush-hour traffic jams, the rec center is as much a social hub as it is a fitness hub. During the academic year, it's open weekdays 6 a.m. - midnight, Saturdays 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Sundays 1 p.m. - midnight. Bring your

JCard to swipe for entry, or the non-nonsense security guards will turn you around and send you home, whether they know you or not.

In an attempt to manage the masses, the rec staff has a 20-minute limit on cardio machines when there's a wait list. They encourage patrons to exercise during the non-peak hours of 9-11:30 a.m. and 1:30 - 4 p.m. Arrive after 5 p.m. on a weekday, and you may wait half an hour while an Einstein look-alike finishes his stroll on the treadmill. Unless you've got time to kill, you'd be wise to take their advice.

Keep going...

For those who need a roomful of people, a blasting stereo and a hard-ass instructor for encouragement, fitness classes are offered upstairs daily in the Bob & Anne Evans fitness classrooms. Buy a \$40 semester fitness pass and you have unlimited access to as much yoga, kickboxing and step aerobics as you can stomach.

For those who need direct, one-on-one motivation, a great student team of personal trainers can tailor a workout just for you. A one-time, one and a half hour gym orientation and fitness program planning is \$30 for students and \$45 for Hopkins affiliates.

Regular personal training sessions run at \$20/hour for students and \$30/hour for faculty and staff. Visit the main rec center office to sign up.

More than just a gym

The rec center also brought the Homewood campus its first real multi-purpose area. Over the past year, the gym has transformed to host Blackalicious concerts, orientation events and gala dinners.

The majority of the daily staff is students. The rec center offers work study and non-work study jobs as personal trainers, fitness room monitors and doorway security.

Check out the rec center Web site, <http://www.jhu.edu/~recsport/>, for more information on employment, fitness class schedules and rec center closings.

Whether you're facing the fabled "freshman 15," or returning to the stress of Hopkins for seconds, a little physical activity always does the body good. The rec center has brought a fitness renaissance to campus. It's amazing what a little bright paint, a couple mirrors and state-of-the-art equipment will do to boost the spirit, free the mind and jump-start your momentum.



DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

At the new and improved athletic center, Hopkins athletes aren't the only ones who get to shoot some hoops.



Sometimes a scream is better  
than a thesis.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson



## Covered grades ... you lucky kiddies

By Claire Koehler

After the fun of orientation is over and your parents have left, it's time to get down to business. What will your first semester be like at arguably one of the hardest schools on the planet?

First semester at Johns Hopkins is all about adjusting. Socially of course, but we're talking academically here (sorry to disappoint those party-hardy types). If you think you know how hard Hopkins will be, trust me — you won't until you have lived through your freshman year. But things can be a lot easier if you study smart and know the ropes of pass/fail first semester and how it can help or hurt your second semester.

To ease the transition from high school to college and to top your list of "Things I Love about JHU" is the covered grades policy. Instead of normal letter grades, S's and U's show up on your first semester transcript. Get a C- or above and you'll see an S for Satisfactory; fall short of a C- in any first semester course and a dreaded Unsatisfactory will appear. But your GPA is still 0.0 if you get all A's or all D's, and that S in Calculus could be covering an A or a C.

Some students think that's all there is to it, but no. You are actually given letter grades; professors send them to the registrar's office, which in turn changes them to S's or U's. Academic advising also has access to your letter grades; you can go to their office to find them out for yourself. But since these grades won't be known by anyone else, why worry about studying?

Well, the big incentive is that all students at Hopkins are expected to earn a GPA of 2.0 or better. If you fall below that first semester, you are placed on Academic Probation for second semester, which isn't fun. But earning a 2.0 GPA is the equivalent of getting all C's — not hard for all you geniuses. So party on, right?

Well, yes and no. Hey, it's first semester in college; you're finally on your own, finally on your way to adulthood. Believe me, first semester isn't a time to be exploring the MSE Library. All you need is some balance in order to enjoy first semester and do well in your classes. First, consider second semester and beyond. Orgo is based on Intro Chem, Intermediate Italian requires mastery of Elements and Econ majors

find it hard to move on without having successfully completed Micro and Macro. Therefore, it is truly to your benefit to study in these types of courses. Not hardcore studying perhaps, but enough so you have an understanding of the main material. But if you're not

*All you need is some  
balance in order to enjoy  
first semester and do  
well in your classes.*

planning on being an English major, don't kill yourself on that five page paper for Expository Writing when you want to go clubbing. If Psych isn't your thing, don't stay up all night studying while your friends go to a baseball game.

If you're having real difficulty in a class, get a tutor. I'm serious; tutoring is

one of the best keep secrets here at Johns Hopkins. Free drop-in tutoring is available in math, economics, chemistry, biology and engineering courses Monday through Thursday 7-10 p.m. in Levering. You just go there, sign in and sit down with one the tutors in your subject.

They truly help — trust me. There is also a Physics Help Room in the Physics Department, a Math Help Room in Krieger 213 and a Writing Center located in the Greenhouse Annex (behind Gilman). I spent a lot of time in the Math Help Room first semester, and I don't know what I would have done without it. Once you've gone a few times, the tutors get used to seeing you and you can have some fun with them. Also consider group studying. It's a great way to get to know fellow classmates and get a heads-up on that homework.

Take it one day at a time. Study early in the day in case something fun comes up over dinner at Terrace. Don't tell your friends "no" when they want to go downtown or to Towson on Friday night because "I feel like I need to get some reading done." Aim to do well, but do not even consider getting all A's. Always keep in mind this is probably the only time in your educational life when you won't have to worry about GPA.

The most important tip I can give is to go to class — every class — and take good notes. Most exams are based on what the professors teach, not the textbook, and being in class is the way to learn what they expect from you. In fact, going to class and participating is the single most important thing you can do for yourself and your success in college. Good luck!



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

The infamous M.S.E. library: You will probably spend a lot of time here, but please sleep at home.

**STSTRAVEL.COM**  
Join America's #1 Student Tour Operator

CANCUN  
ACAPULCO  
JAMAICA  
BAHAMAS  
FLORIDA

**SPRING BREAK 2004**

Sell Trips, Earn Cash,  
Go Free! Now Hiring  
Call for group discounts

**STUDENT TRAVEL SERVICES**

1-800-648-4849 / [www.ststravel.com](http://www.ststravel.com)

# Declare your destiny ... or your major

By News-Letter Staff

We all thought we knew exactly what we wanted to do in college. We'd all major something that was really cool, exciting and innovative, a subject that would also fill our wallets after graduation. That perfect major that would combine what we love with a marketable future.

Or so we thought.

According to the *US News*, the average college kid changes his or her major about six times during their university career. As common as the MTV music awards or someone resigning in Tony Blair's cabinet. Don't be surprised if you suddenly realize that you actually hate what you wrote about so well in those college dream essays. Chill out, it happens to just about everyone.

Whatever the case, trust upperclassmen when they tell you to do what comes naturally. Don't try to push your luck in political science if your true love is physics. Each major has difficult years, requires hours in the well-loved M.S.E. palace and has a minimum of 120 credits required. The Hopkins academic mantra fully endorses a rigorous workload for all four years, and no major escapes.

If you have interests other than your major, however, a lot of possibilities are available. You can do a very feasible minor (yes, there are Biomedical Engineers who minor in Latin American studies), or you can join an organization or a club which works towards these interests.

## Biomedical engineering

The infamous BME is also known as the best biomedical engineering program in the nation. Truth be told, many a freshman decides to major in BME. Truth also be told, many a freshman quickly switches to another major. Majoring in BME takes a lot of time and effort. If you just want to find an easy way into med school, do not major in this subject. If you have the motivation and the insane work ethic, go ahead.

## Biology

So you want to go to med school and would rather spend your time learning about protein-kinase pathways and Mendelian inheritance instead of art, history or literature? Do you dislike flexibility and choice when it comes to classes? Do you find Hopkins professors too personable and accessible? Well, you're in luck. Hopkins offers one of the top biology programs in the country.

## Computer Science

Not a major for those who need sunlight, Computer Science boasts long, late-night hours working in dimly-lit rooms while plotting to take over the world. Too few teachers and too many

students have made even this major's upper-level classes crowded with 90 or 100 students and your adviser *might* know your name ... when you donate your fortune back to the department. Now that the dot-com boom is over, the rewards may not be as great, but one does graduate with a fine taste in caffeinated and alcoholic beverages.

## Economics

Non-economics majors look at the number of lacrosse players majoring in Economics and assume that it'll be an easy ride. You couldn't be more wrong. The upper level economics courses are some of the hardest courses on campus. Remember, if you want to learn about how to make money, take a business course.

## Engineering

Engineering courses are hard but worth it. Get ready for a lot of math work. If you can handle it, then you'll be just fine. Whether you are a mechanical, civil or electrical engineering, be prepared for a lot of work.

## Foreign Language

Language majors at Hopkins are few and far between. Apart from the first years for learning the language, upper level electives are relaxed, easy and fun. Most majors took foreign language as a double major for diversity. Although the Spanish department isn't too popular, the French and Italian departments are well-liked. Courses are available in several smaller departments, including Portuguese and Asian languages.

## History

One of the top programs in the nation, the History Department always offers interesting classes with well-known professors. While the department itself is not small, not many undergraduates are majoring in History. The requirements for a history major are light, so many students choose to double in another subject.

## International Studies

Even though this major is International Studies, it is always referred to as International Relations or just IR. It's the largest major at Hopkins, so it's very easy to find fellow IR majors to study with. International Studies is essentially a mix of Political Science, History, Foreign Language and Economics. The major also offers a five year BA/MA opportunity with the world-renowned SAIS school in Washington DC.

## Math Science

If you're an engineering major you're probably going to be filling most of the requirements for the Mathematical Sciences major. It's through the



PHOTO BY DENISE TERRY/NEWS-LETTER

**Ilan Mizrahi takes a break to peruse the newspaper in the MSE library.**

Engineering school and most students elect to take this as a second major because it only requires a few more classes than the math requirements for the engineering degrees.

## Neuroscience

Each year, more and more students major in neuroscience, the study of the brain and its function. The field spans topics in behavioral biology, psychology, physiology and computer imaging, and thus has broad appeal. Students are drawn by hands-on research opportunities and the chance to study with professors who are working in what some call "the last frontier ... the brain." The major meshes well with premed requirements, and most neuro majors will claim they have one of the best majors on campus.

## Psychology

Introductory psychology classes tend to feature some of the most fascinating and entertaining lectures offered at Hopkins. This is owing in part to the inherently interesting nature of psychology, but it is largely due to the highly engaging professors that teach here — just ask anybody who took Dr. Noonburg's Intro to Abnormal Psych. It is rumored that psychology is an easy major, but don't be misled — while the multiple-choice tests given in intro classes are nice, upper-level courses often require long papers and essay writing. Psychology is an excellent major not only for those interested in a psych-related field, but for those planning to pursue a career in law, healthcare, marketing, education or social work as well. Plus, it's a great way to analyze your psychotic roommate.

## Public Health

This major, attractive to both premeds and other science students, meshes the best of social and natural

sciences for the study of broad health issues. Small, upper level-electives are fascinating. Your senior year will find you taking grad classes at our renowned Bloomberg School of Public Health across town.

## Writing Seminars

How often in high school did you get to take classes taught by well-published authors? Or get acting lessons from a widely acclaimed "artist-in-residence?" The Writing Seminars department, while not a huge attractor of incoming freshmen, becomes a haven for creative writing majors, drama geeks, and anyone else who wants a break from the monotony of engineering or poly sci courses. Despite the campus-wide perception of the department, Writing Seminars is not a bullshit major if you're willing to put effort into it and get something out of it. And it's not for coasting either. Grading is subjective, but professors know whether or not you're trying to improve your writing. If you don't write well, you won't do well in the classes. But if you just try a little, the department will make a writer out of you. Or a poet. Or maybe even the next John Astin.

## Sell Spring Break Trips

All the fun & all the protection  
American Express Worldwide  
Guaranteed Best Buy

1 Free Trip for Every 10 Paid or  
Ca\$h Starting With First  
Booking

Make Your Spring Break  
Exxtreme

Exxtreme Vacations, Inc.

1-800-336-2260

# Hopkins for dummies: gut courses

By Jon Zimmer

The key to finding good real estate is "location, location, location." Similarly, the key to surviving Hopkins is "gut courses, gut courses, gut courses." Unless you're an exceptionally gifted student with a matching work ethic, odds are you'll have to find some easy A's to make your days at Homewood tolerable. Even better are the courses in which you can coast and still enjoy the material at the same time.

Of all the tricks of the trade you will learn at Hopkins, finding those hidden gem courses should be first priority on your list. The best way to do this is to ask older students about course selections. Playing a sport or joining a fraternity/sorority makes this easier. Those two populations are adept at locating the path of least resistance, but it's possible to do just as well by good old-fashioned word of mouth.

Here's a quick list of courses that can boost your GPA if you do a modicum of work and attend class occasionally.

## Intro to American Politics (three credits)

This is the ultimate gut course at Hopkins. There are only three one and a half page reaction papers and two exams, which are all essay format (don't worry, they aren't that bad). The icing on the cake is that the exams are distributed a week before test day.

All you need to do is prepare your answers beforehand and then memorize them. Lecture material has basically nothing to do with the exams, so missing a few will not kill you.

Professor Ginsberg is moderately entertaining in lecture, so classes move by fast.

Final Word: the secret is out on this one already. It fills up fast. It's not necessarily an easy A, but if you wanted to take it satisfactory, unsatisfactory, it is no trouble at all.

## Intro to Business (four credits)

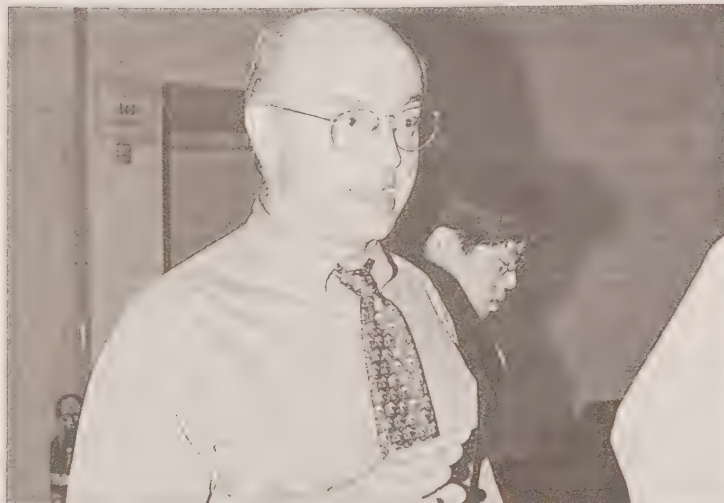
The best part about this class is that

professor before class starts (telling him or her how much you're dying to take the course). Then go to class the first day — chances are the professor will just let students in.

If you don't get in the first day, keep showing up for class — your persistence will show the professor that you're serious.

**Make sure to meet with your advisor long before registration begins** — your advisor needs to lift the "hold" on your registration. If your hold isn't lifted, you won't be allowed to register online. Also make sure your tuition payments are in order — if you have any outstanding fees, the Registrar will put a hold on your registration.

**Before you plan out your classes, check the online Academic Course Evaluation (ACE) Guide** (<http://www.jhu.edu/~registr/aceguide/>). The ACE Guide rates classes according to student surveys on such topics as workload, interest, professor and presentation.



FILE PHOTO

Professor Ginsberg delivers with his enthusiastic American lectures.

it's four A credits if you attend class and take care of all your assignments. There are short readings and weekly assignments, but they are easy and interesting if you have any sort of business acumen (even if you don't, this class will help you develop some). Professor Aronhime has taught this course on a few occasions, and is an informative and interesting lecturer.

He does give unannounced quizzes from time to time, but they do little to affect your grade. There are two exams, and two sizable papers, but they are not difficult by any means.

Final Word: tough to get in the class if you are a freshman, but keep it in mind for other years. If you attend class, you will learn some valuable business skills, history and enjoy yourself while you are there.

Did I mention you can have note cards for your exams? No studying required. Signing up for this one is a no-brainer.

## Business Ethics

Taught by Professor Goldenberg, the best part of this class is that there is no final exam. Repeat: NO final exam. You must attend class weekly and complete a one page reaction paper, but the material is not difficult.

Of the dozen or so classes, movies are shown at two or three of them. In conjunction with large group papers (five pages per person), the class wraps up with hour-long group presentations, in which creativity and comedy are more important than actual information.

Final Word: worth taking if you have an interest in business. Good writing skills will come in handy here. Plus, you don't need to worry about memorizing material after the midterm, because you will never be tested on it.

**Leadership & Management I or II (two credits)**

Unfortunately, most all of the ROTC courses have been switched from three credits to two credits, but they are still worth taking to pad your GPA. L&M consists of only two exams and one 10-page paper.

There is occasional weekly homework, but it's not difficult. The class only meets for about an hour and a half per week.

Final Word: easy to do well, easy to schedule. Not as great as it used to be since it is one credit less than previous years, but still worth taking a look at.

Notice there aren't any science courses on this list — they tend to be tougher than courses in the humanities departments. Try to select two relatively easy courses a semester to offset the workload and difficulty of your base requirements towards your major.

Also, take advantage of the satisfactory/unsatisfactory option at this school. You can theoretically take over a year's worth of courses for no grade here, so make the best of it.

When all else fails, look for the classes with the most lacrosse players.

## Start your own Fraternity!

Zeta Beta Tau is looking for men to start a new Chapter. If you are interested in academic success, a chance to network, and an opportunity to make friends in a non-pledging brotherhood email: [zbt@zbtnational.org](mailto:zbt@zbtnational.org) or call 1-800-431-9674

## SURVIVING ONLINE REGISTRATION

**Get up early!** Set your alarm for just before 7 a.m. and be prepared to sit in front of your computer screen for at least an hour and a half.

**Read the registration instructions the night before** — you'll save a lot of time if you already know what to do.

**Be patient** — don't throw things at your computer, and don't pull your hair out. The system moves very slowly because of the large number of students trying to use it. Just stay calm and wait — you will eventually get through.

**Have your planned course schedule in front of you**, complete with the course number and the section number. Also have a list of back-up courses — as a freshman, you probably won't get into every class you want.

**If a class is full, make sure you get on the wait list** (just click the "wait list" option). To improve your chances of getting in, e-mail the pro-

# Start your career by working for free

By Megan Waitkoff

"Start now" seems to be the catch phrase for freshmen, sophomore, juniors and seniors alike when it comes to internships. Previous work experience, difficult class schedules and summer vacations aside, students are jumping on the internship bandwagon at an increasing rate, and catapulting into career fields before textbooks are cracked open.

Getting started and making it to that first day of work is mostly self-propelled — but not without a little help from on-campus resources. Jennifer Saito, a senior at Hopkins, is no stranger to the perils and possibilities of internships. Working as a peer assistant at the campus Career Center, Saito has helped many students, freshmen through seniors, get their start.

"Students should be proactive," she said. "You can't expect a job to fall into your lap. You have to constantly ask questions."

Saito does, however, encourage students to come to the career center, located on the third floor of Garland Hall, for pointers on the process of getting an internship. Students can set up a career center account, which gives center advisors and assistants a personal profile to better understand what each student is looking for in an internship. Students are always welcome to ask questions and

meet with peer assistants during center drop-in hours, which are listed on the Web site at <http://www.jhu.edu/~careers.com>, or set up one-on-one meetings with a career counselor.

Saito also suggests that students utilize the internship databases and alumni contact lists available at the center.

"Students should look all the time," she said. "Recruiters are constantly putting stuff in, and alumni are definitely willing to help you out."

Sound a little overwhelming? According to Dawna Milligan, associate director for the career center, the most important thing is getting started. And as a freshman or sophomore, you don't have to have a concrete career plan.

"It's okay if you don't know [what you want to do]. Why should you?" she said. "It's not okay if you don't do anything about it."

Milligan suggests that students start by building a resume and thinking of that resume as a personal ad. Peer assistants and counselors at the center are always happy to read and critique resumes, along with cover letters and portfolios, if necessary. She also encourages students to look at internships as more than just resume builders.

"It's a chance to experience the field

and think broadly about a career role," she said.

It's also a chance for exposure, Milligan said. It's a "test-drive," both for the student and the employer. The employer gets the chance to see if the student would be a good employee, and the student gets the chance to see if that particular career field is the direction that he or she wants to pursue.

*Students should be proactive ... you can't expect a job to fall into your lap. You have to constantly ask questions.*

—JENNIFER SAITO

sue. Both Milligan and Saito agree that the end of an internship is not the end of the relationship with that employer.

"They get to know your work ethic," Milligan said. "It's someone who can speak to your experience."

Milligan suggests that students e-mail their internship coordinators every other month, just to keep in touch. These five minutes once every 60 days could be a step to a permanent paying job in the future, or at least a contact to another possibility.

After working with students through the internship process, Saito agrees that one of the best qualities is to be persistent and network, network, network. In the working world, there is no excuse for a summer spent relaxing, or a month of vacationing.

"You really need to justify why you wouldn't or didn't [get an internship]," she said. "By sophomore year, you should be more focused."

Luckily for Hopkins students, the University organizes a number of resources to help students develop a stepping stone. On campus recruiting sessions start at the end of September, during which representatives from major companies network with students and collect resumes for possible jobs and/or internships. The career center also offers numerous forums on interviewing skills, resume critiquing and cover letter techniques. A complete list of upcoming events and additional resources is available 24 hours a day on the career center Web site.

"Come early, come often, just do it," Milligan said. "It's never too early."

## Classes, credits and prereqs ... oh my!

By Julianna Finelli

The best thing about your freshman experience at Hopkins won't be the frat parties, the AMR camaraderie, or the communal dining. It will be the "satisfactory/unsatisfactory" policy, which prevents grad schools, med schools and the like from seeing your first semester letter grades.

But rather than use it as an excuse to slack off and party all semester, you should instead take advantage of this rare opportunity to adjust to life in college, experiment with different classes and, most importantly, learn how to succeed academically at Hopkins. The Office of Academic Advising, located on the third floor of Garland Hall, can be an invaluable resource in the process — if you know how to use it.

Each incoming freshman is assigned an academic advisor with whom they must meet in order to register for spring semester classes. Your advisor will review your proposed schedule, making sure you're taking the right classes and your workload isn't too severe. He or she will then lift the "hold" on your

registration, allowing you to register online. If you don't schedule an appointment with your advisor beforehand, you won't be able to register — and you'll be forced to struggle through the mess of red tape that is the Registrar's office.

Dr. Ruth Aranow, a senior academic advisor, warns students not to wait until the last minute to make an appointment with their advisor, and to show up at the scheduled time.

"Many [students] don't keep their appointments ... [and] they use up precious time," she said.

Since meeting times fill up rather quickly, you should call for an appointment shortly after you receive your course booklet.

For many students, this is the only contact they make with their advisor. But advisors are available throughout the year to answer questions, make suggestions and offer general assistance. If you are struggling in a class or having problems adjusting, see your advisor right away.

At the beginning of your sophomore year, you will be assigned a fac-

ulty advisor in the department of your major. Because faculty advisors are (usually) more knowledgeable about the specifics of their department, they will be able to offer more detailed advice on which classes to take, how to get research or job experience and how to prepare for grad school.

For details on what classes and credits you need to graduate on time, however, the advisors in Academic Advising will be far more helpful. According to Aranow, these advisors are available to all students, not just to freshmen.

If you are considering pre-law or pre-med, stop by the Office of Preprofessional Advising, also located on the third floor of Garland, and ask to get your name on a mailing list. An e-mailed update will keep you informed about meetings and speakers, and will provide you with any other necessary information.

Another service offered by Academic Advising is the Tutoring Program, which provides free drop-in tutoring, small group tutoring and one-on-one tutoring. Drop-in tutoring, offered in Levering from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, is

available to any student needing help in math, economics, chemistry, biology or engineering. Small group and one-on-one tutoring is offered to students in need of special assistance.

If you're having trouble in one of your classes, you should first seek help from your professor, according to Aranow.

"Students should avail themselves of help from professors and TAs," she said. "Don't be afraid to speak up — a student seeking knowledge is always respected."

After seeking help from the professor, try attending a tutoring session or a TA-run study session. If you're still struggling, contact Academic Advising about further assistance.

The staff at Academic Advising is there to assist you, but you need to seek them out. Your grades might be covered, but the skills you learn during this first semester will largely determine how you fare in future semesters. Don't wait until you're failing Intro Chem to stop by the office.

"And enjoy," says Aranow. "If you enjoy your studies, you'll do fine. If you're finding you dread [them], come see us."

# Finals ... They really are that bad

By Megan Waitkoff

You spend the entire semester dreading them, crying in miserable anticipation. You figure out your grades over and over again, realizing that one test could ruin three months worth of work. Are finals really the terror that they're made out to be? Well, actually, yes. It would be hard to find someone who actually enjoys them, but there are ways to keep finals studying and worrying under control. Here are some tips for both college newcomers and fourth-year pros.

1. Read, or at least skim, all of the readings from your classes. Trust me, professors assign them for a reason, even if it's to put that one obnoxious question on the final from the book they figure nobody bothered to read.

2. Visit with your professor during his or her office hours. Yes, I know, you've been avoiding this all semester, but professors are there to help you out with class material. And they will be more prone to steer you in the right direction for the final if you actually take the initiative to meet with them outside of class.

3. Start studying early so you can ask questions. If you leave it until the last minute, like the night before, there won't be anyone to help you if there's an entire chemistry chapter that you

still don't understand.

4. Go to help sessions throughout the semester. It's better to grasp class content little by little, rather than all at once. Don't plan on learning physics found the weekend before the final. It's not gonna happen.

5. Attend review sessions, even if you feel like you know all of the material. If professors or TAs take the time to offer them, it's beneficial for you to go. You never know what clues could be mentioned, and even if you know everything (which is doubtful), it's always helpful to hear other students' questions.

6. Go to the electronic reserves online and see if there are any old exams in the archives. A few professors have been known to unwittingly use the same exams as in past years without thinking twice. And old exams by the same professor will give you an idea of the types of questions that will be asked on your exam.

7. Ask the professor and/or TAs to come up with practice exams or question sets. Sure, it's one more thing to do, but I'm sure the professor has a better idea of what's crucial to practice before the exam, don't you?

8. Also, make sure the professor posts a practice exam with enough time

for you to try and still ask questions about it if you have trouble. And if you can, get them to post solutions. Not all professors will, but it's worth a try.

9. Get notes from classes you've missed. You never know if during the one class you missed, the professor lectured on the most important topic of the semester. And it's best not to have the mentality of "oh well, it was only one class." Some professors have had, albeit ridiculously, one lecture constitute more than 30 percent of the final.

10. Reread your notes. Over and over again. And then again. And when you're done doing that, maybe you should read your notes. Trust me. If it's important enough to be included in lecture, it's important material for the exam.

11. Get relationship and/or other social problems under control. The week before finals is NOT the time to start dating someone new, end a relationship, take up weed or become a bar hopper. Relax and just go about your daily routine. No funny business, okay?

12. Develop a study schedule. It's hard as hell to be motivated to study, especially during reading period, when you don't even have to get up for class. And it's really confusing to try and work out how you're going to juggle studying for five finals. Write out a plan and stick

to it. That way, you'll spend enough time on classes you're less sure about, and not overdo it for classes that you feel comfortable with.

13. Study with other classmates. Two minds are better than one, and it's a great way to make sure you've got all your bases covered. Throw questions back and forth, make outlines and, most importantly, TAKE BREAKS! Even two-minute breaks to catch up on gossip. Trust me, your overworked brain will appreciate it.

14. Get plenty of sleep, especially the night before an exam. Some people pull all-nighters and go right into the exam. Some people can do this and actually perform well on exams. But be advised that this is a very small majority of the population. Most people need to rest so they can think clearly and remain focused for the three-hour tests. Besides, chances are if you don't know it the night before, you're just not going to.

15. RELAX. TAKE A DEEP BREATH. IT WILL BE OKAY. By the time you walk into your finals, you'll be completely prepared. You will have studied until you were blue in the face. The best thing to do is walk in to those tests with confidence. Believe in yourself, and know that if you've given 100 percent, you've already succeeded.

## Card catalogs are for sissies

By Vadim Gretchouckin

During your first year at Hopkins, you, the student, may very well have to do work at some point. When that fateful moment comes, you will discover a new friend in the Milton S. Eisenhower University Library. A daunting locale by any standard, the library will nevertheless prove its importance to you in whatever research assignment you will be forced to undertake. Therefore, you should strive to learn the nuances of MSE as quickly and as painlessly as possible.

The MSE building is divided into six levels, which are labeled Q, M, A, B, C and D. The Q level has some seating areas as well as a coffee shop where you can purchase caffeinated study aids. The actual library holdings begin on the M level. This is where you will find the checkout/return counter, a small computer lab and a librarian to assist you in finding whatever you may be searching for. Copy machines and computer terminals are in abundance and can be

found throughout the entire library. Levels A-D are designed for studying and are where the vast majority of the library's holdings are found.

So how exactly do you go about finding a book or a magazine in the MSE? The only practical way is to use the online JHU Libraries Catalog, found at <http://catalog.library.jhu.edu>. It offers a variety of options for searching, the most generally useful one being the "basic keyword" search. You simply type in the topic you want to learn more about, and pick an item. If the item you chose is an audio recording, videotape, or DVD, you will have to go check it out separately at the audiovisual center on Level A. If it is a book or magazine, then you will have to find out exactly where in the library it is located.

At the end of the record for the item chosen, you will find the catalog information. As a student, you have a number of libraries at your disposal, some owned by Hopkins, some not. If the item you're interested in is not in the Eisenhower building, you may

request it at the inter-library loan office and it will be sent to MSE for you to pick up and check out. However, if MSE does have the item on hand, you will then have to deal with the stacks system.

Every MSE holding has a Library of Congress alphabetical classification. The first letter (or, in some cases, two letters) of the call number tell you what subject the document deals with and where it can be found. On the main library Web site (<http://www.library.jhu.edu>), you will find a link to a page showing you call number locations. For example, all medicine and engineering volumes can be found on C level, whereas all foreign language and literature volumes are on D level. Each level of the library has a floor plan to show you exactly where the category you are looking for is located.

If what you're looking for isn't currently available because someone checked it out before you could, you can put in a request for it (incidentally, you can do this even for items that are

currently available, to make sure that they stay that way). To do this, you simply go to the item's page on the library catalog system and press the request button. After you put in all relevant information (specifically, the small number on your J-Card next to the barcode and your Social Security number), the library will reserve the item for you. When the item is brought back, it will be placed on hold for you, and you will receive an e-mail informing you that you can come and pick it up. After that happens, you simply head over to the checkout counter with your J-Card and the attendant will bring your reserved items and check them out for you. Nothing could be simpler.

If, after all this, you're still having problems, it's probably time to consult a librarian. Librarians are on duty on M level at all times, and they're generally quite good at explaining the workings of the library system and in helping you refine your search terms to get exactly what you're looking for.

# Practice, practice, practice at Peabody

By Emily Nalven

One of the premier music conservatories in the world, the Peabody Institute is nestled in the historic Mt. Vernon section of Baltimore, only a few minutes from the Homewood Campus, the Johns Hopkins Medical Center and the Walters Art Museum. Peabody is a division of the Johns Hopkins University, giving performing and liberal arts students access to all facilities and resources that students at the Homewood campus have. They graduate with a degree from Johns Hopkins.

Uniquely, Peabody offers both a degree-granting conservatory for aspiring music professionals and a preparatory school for lovers of the arts of any age or skill level. Three degrees awarded at Peabody include a bachelor's and master's in music, and a doctorate in musical arts.

The bachelor's course is a four-year performance-based program with majors in keyboard and orchestral instruments, guitar, voice, jazz and composition. In addition to hours of daily practice, the 600+ students in the conservatory are required to take liberal arts courses, which are aimed at broadening their general understandings of music, art and culture. Students at the conservatory also may cross-register for courses at the Homewood campus.

Besides performance and composition majors, the master's program offers music history and education, electronic and computer music and conducting majors. Doctoral degrees are awarded for conducting, composition and performance.

Students also can receive a Performer's Certificate, which is closely related to the bachelor's program but is a three-year program without the liberal arts coursework. Two other graduate level certificates are awarded to students who concentrate heavily on the performance aspect. These certificates require little coursework.

Singers generally practice one to two hours every day, and instrumentalists practice upwards of four. This involves warming up, learning new music and practicing it repeatedly, making it better every time.

Also, many students earn an extra credit per semester by performing in operas. But that can mean five or six hours of rehearsal a day, six days a week right before the performance. This leaves little time for social life, and because drinking is bad for the voice, that element of college life doesn't exist at Peabody.

Additionally, students can enroll in a double-degree program at the Homewood Campus and at the Peabody conservatory. However, it is a demanding program that averages only five students each year.

Typical students in the double-degree program take 30 credits a semester (compared to the average of 15 at the School of Arts and Science) and manage a solo repertoire. Students have a difficult time balancing coursework at Peabody and Homewood. Most have a semester or year that's heavy at one school and light at the other, however, some requirements at Peabody double as requirements at Homewood. Math at Homewood can be substituted for music theory at Peabody. Likewise, Western Tradition at Peabody counts as a history course at Homewood.

While professors at Homewood receive countless awards and recognition from the academic community, most students don't read of their groundbreaking achievements unless they want extra credit. This is a sharp contrast to Peabody, where most students own their professors CD's and actually listen to them. Name-dropping of Peabody faculty includes Leon Fleischer, Manuel Barueco, John Shirley Quirk and Phyllis Bryn Julsen. These professors are on the radio, and they eat lunch in the Peabody cafeteria. They're real people.

Even though the experience at Peabody is completely different from the experience at Homewood, the school still has a lot to offer. Though the hours of practicing can be grueling and the course load overwhelming, the professors are true role

models to their students. When asked about Peabody and its famous staff, one student replied, "You think to yourself, maybe someday, I'll be one of them," and then hurried off to lock herself in the practice room for just a few more hours.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.PEABODY.JHU.EDU](http://www.peabody.jhu.edu)

Learn music from the Peabody masters, such as violinist Victor Danchenko.

## Hopkins pounds the gavel

By Raphael Schweber-Koren

Above all else, a session of Student Council feels *odd*.

If you decide to attend a meeting, or even get involved in student council, an evening with the pack might start a little something like this.

You find yourself in the East Boardroom, a large ornate room with portraits on the walls and a vast table in the center. The chairs look like antiques from an earlier era. The feeling is one of awe and importance.

Sitting around the table are students, often in t-shirts and slacks, all about your age, all discussing the latest campus events, voting on funding requests or asking questions of various campus officials.

It's enough to make your head spin.

Student Council, or StuCo in the campus lingo, oversees many aspects of student life: it oversees student groups, it's the primary point of contact for student-administration relations, and it organizes class-wide events.

StuCo is composed of two separate sets of people: the executive board and the class officials. The executive board includes five students: Charles Reyner,

student council president; Katie Davis, vice president for administration; Manu Sharma, vice president for institutional relations; Ben Wardlow, treasurer; and Audrey Pinn, secretary.

StuCo also supervises the decisions of the Student Activities Commission, which is chaired by the executive treasurer of StuCo. The SAC evaluates funding requests and approves the budgets for most of the student groups on campus.

The class officials consist of each class's president, vice president, secretary/treasurer and three representatives. They organize class-wide events and represent the class's interests at StuCo meetings. Events coordinated by class officers in past years included "Senior Week," among others.

Elections for StuCo's freshmen representatives are held in early October, and full elections for the Executive Board are held in early March. Class elections follow about a month afterwards.

Council elections are supervised by the Board of Elections, which operates independently of StuCo. Last year's board was embroiled in controversy as many candidates were disqualified due to what some saw as minor rules violations. Manish Gala, the former StuCo

president, said that many sought victory by, "getting their opponent disqualified," according to an analysis of the issue in last year's *News-Letter*.

Unlike previous elections, students running for the two senior class representative positions in last year were allowed more campaign freedom. Widespread outrage over disqualified candidates led to the final election, which allowed write-in candidates to win with as few as eight votes.

StuCo also was involved in writing the report from the Commission on Undergraduate Education's and the return of meal-equivalency to Levering Hall. Next year, StuCo will participate in the design of the Charles Village Project, a development of retail and housing space in the 3200 block of St. Paul Street.

The largest enemy of StuCo is the student body's perception that StuCo does nothing. Former president Manish Gala echoed this sentiment in an op-ed piece in the *News-Letter* last year, but said that while some members do little, the council as a whole plays a large role in student life.

The *News-Letter* lists the names and phone numbers of each Student Council member each week, as well as whether or not they attended that week's meeting.

# DISTRACTIONS

COVER-LETTER

N-L

Don't stay in bed,  
unless you can make  
money in bed.

— George Burns

## Fun on campus is possible

By Vadim Gretchouchkin  
and Megan Waitkoff

So you've grown bored of looking at the trees and playing on the quads of Hopkins' awesome campus? Not to worry; there are plenty of other campus excitements all within easy walking distance of your dorm! Everyone knows about the AC, sure, but not everyone knows about free doughnuts. Interested? Read on.

First things first – the athletic center, commonly known as the AC, is a very recent addition to Hopkins and is open virtually all of the time. Whatever kind of sport or physical activity you may be into, you can probably find someone who shares your interests at the AC.

There are state-of-the-art weight machines, treadmills, basketball and racquetball courts, an inside track, a pool and even a rock climbing wall. If you don't play a sport, then it's a great time to pick one up and make some friends in the process! The rock climbing wall and racquetball courts are especially recommended.

While the weather is still warm, chill out summer-style on the "beach." No, we aren't cool enough to be on the ocean, or even a really big lake, but Hopkins

has its own non-sand grassy area in front of the MSE where plenty of people fry themselves in bikinis.

The beach is the perfect place to throw around a frisbee with some friends, strum away to the wind on your guitar or lay back on a blanket and read a good book. On nice days, people even bring out their dogs to run around while girls coo at how cute they are. Best of all, you can relax on the beach all day and night.

Prefer a computer mouse to a lacrosse stick? Perhaps the digital media center at Mattin Center is more your speed. Students can use a wide array of high-tech goodies: Mac and PC desktops with graphics, video and sound editing programs, film scanners, digitizing tablets, wide-format high quality inkjet printers and digital camcorders. You can even sign out certain equipment to use on your own projects.

For the more electronic entertainment oriented, E-Level in Levering offers a close retreat. With Playstations and pool tables, the atmosphere almost necessitates mellowing out. Grab a burger, plop down on a comfy sofa, and watch daytime soaps in-between class.

The observatory on the roof of the Bloomberg building is a perfect on-campus getaway for star-lovers, and



VADIM GRETCHOUCHKIN/NEWS-LETTER

**One Hopkins socialite gets into the groove during Coffee Grounds.**

those couples looking for a cheap date. The observatory is open to the general public every Friday night beginning at dark. The view from the top was the perfect way to see Mars, with your arm around a hot chick or a buff boy. Whether alone or with friends, bring some cookies and gaze into the great big Milky Way.

Artsier types may be interested in Coffee Grounds, a chill-out coffee shop and hang-out place also located in the Mattin Center. If you have some special talent that you just can't wait to show off, you can show up to open mic night on Fridays. Sing a song, dance a jig, recite a poem, play an instrument...the possibilities are endless.

Of course, you could just sit around with your friends or play a game of chess or checkers. What could be better than sitting around and chatting with your friends? The answer, of course, is the free Krispy Kreme donuts, tea and coffee that you get just for showing up!

Too lazy to even lounge around with a cup of hot chocolate? Watch a movie at Shriver auditorium! You'll have to look on the Daily Jolt ([jhu.dailyjolt.com](http://jhu.dailyjolt.com)) to see what's play-

ing and when, but the effort is definitely worth it. You get a huge screen, comfortable seats, and a THX-quality sound system. Shriver may not have all the latest blockbusters showing in the theaters, but for the price, you really can't go wrong.

At least once during the year, get off your butt and head out to a lacrosse game in the spring, or even a football game in the fall. Watch Hopkins lacrosse cheerleaders (yes, we do have cheerleaders) and sing the fight song along with the pep band. Whether or not we win, the experience is sure to boost school spirit.

If you want to meet new people, joining a student group is the perfect way to get your name out there and have fun without a textbook. Join an intramural sports team, sing your heart out with one of the many a capella groups or get in touch with your roots in the Chinese Students Association or Black Student Union. Cultural groups usually have fun party nights open to everyone, members and nonmembers, with tasty cuisine and tunes to get you in the groove. Whatever your pleasure, there's a group at Hopkins that will make you feel right at home.



FILE PHOTO

**Procrastinate on studying and swim a few laps at the Rec Center.**

# Towson: Hopkins' real student union

A short ride for a world of distance

By Eric Ridge

It's just a short ride down Charles Street and York Road, but what a difference 20 minutes makes. While Towson may not be a thriving metropolis, it is a charming suburban city that still has the quaint feel of a college town. Whether you're longing to shop at Nordstrom or craving an escape from Sodexo food, there is a good chance that Towson has your fix. If nothing else, it's the place you might want to go when the balderdash of Baltimore reaches a critical mass.

Towson is not without notoriety. The movie *Runaway Bride* was filmed in Towson, and so was Baltimorean filmmaker John Waters' flick *Serial Mom*. Toolmaker Black & Decker has its corporate headquarters there, and the Towson Public Library is the busiest suburban library in the country. But don't be fooled into thinking that the suburb is some kind of paradise lost. After all, any city that boasts about a Borders Books and a Barnes and Noble within two blocks of each other as a claim to fame on its website can't be too exciting.

For good reason, the suburb's image is irrevocably tied to the public college that shares its name. Towson University is the second largest college

in the state of Maryland. With 18,000 enrolled students, there is much fun to be had. Don't go expecting any wild parties at fraternity or sorority houses, though; Baltimore County law prohibits the houses entirely. Still, on weeknights and weekends alike, you can find college kids galore on York Road, frequenting places like Bill Bateman's Bistro, where the chicken wings are as plentiful as they are spicy, and Casa Mia's, where a restaurant by day transforms into a bar hotspot by night.

Even if partying state college-style isn't your scene, and neither is visiting the busiest suburban library in the U.S., Towson still has plenty to offer.

There are 2.5 million square feet of retail shops and restaurants in Towson and the local mall, Towson Town Centre, is perhaps the best in the Baltimore area. The movie theater, AMC Towson Commons, is also a must-see in a region that seriously lacks movie theater alternatives.

If you're looking to accelerate gaining the freshman 15, you might want to mark the Krispy Kreme store in Towson as one of your favorite places. You can settle for stale, chilled doughnuts at any local Royal Farms, but why do that when you can eat them fresh. It's a 20-minute ride that is well worth it.

In case doughnuts don't sate your nutritional needs, the next best bet for finding great restaurants is to drive

along York Road and keep your eyes open. You can find national chain restaurants like Pizzeria Uno as well as more specialized dining spots. Notable is Sushi Hana, which is one of the best sushi places around, as well as the Towson Diner, a local favorite that has maintained its appeal and even had a recent renovation.

The Recher Theater calls itself "Maryland's premier concert venue," and it does so for good reason. It has played

host to such guests as Linkin Park, Macy Gray and Reel Big Fish, but it's intimate enough to host local bands, too. It's a good idea to check their Web site regularly to keep up with upcoming shows.

The most important part is getting there. Even without a car, transportation is fairly easy, thanks to the Collegetown Shuttle. Check schedules and be punctual, because the bus won't wait, and neither will the concert or dinner reservations.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.TOWSON.EDU](http://www.towson.edu)

**Towson Town Centre is a shopping mecca for spenders and savers alike.**

## Take a study break: shop till you drop

By Megan Waitkoff

It's the first week of school, and the bad news is, it's only going to get worse. The library will oddly become a source of enjoyment and terror, study nights will turn into wretched all-encompassing study weekends, and that social life you thought you had will seem farther and farther away...

But there is one place that will always cheer up even the most lost souls, those Hopkins students who think there is no reprieve. One marvelous mecca that takes only a couple joy-filled hours out of your busy day, but provides infinite fun and heartwarming comfort. This place to beat all other places is the mall, and the Baltimore area provides a variety of malls to suit everyone's need for release.

The most convenient shopping getaway for Hopkins students is the trip to Towson Town Centre, located in the middle of the posh Baltimore suburb of Towson. Expanding to four floors, this mall provides not only the top of the line stores such as Nordstrom and Banana Republic, but also includes the more affordable venues, like Payless and Wet Seal. With enough space to house a

small colony, it'd be hard to find a store that this mall doesn't include. (Okay, well, there is one: J. Crew. But Baltimore makes up for that slipup at The Gallery. We'll get to that shoppers paradise later).

The best thing about Towson Town Centre is that it's one of the stops on the Collegetown shuttle, which picks up and drops off at Hopkins multiple times a day. As long as you have the shuttle times down, this mall is only a pleasant, FREE, 20-minute bus ride away. With additional restaurants, shopping and movie theatres in the area, Towson is tough to beat... unless you have a car.

Make friends with someone who has a car. Save up for three weeks and split cab fare with four of your friends. No matter how you swing it, Arundel Mills Mall is a necessary destination for any Hopkins student who wants to get away from campus and shop till they drop without zeroing out their checking account. Arundel Mills is a discount mall that offers designer clothes at reasonable prices. With a Gap outlet, Armani Exchange outlet and a new H & M, it's impossible to go home empty handed.

The mall also offers numerous tasty restaurants, a food court complete with Chili's Too and a large Egyptian Muvico 24 movie theatre. The day trip and travel time is worth it. Its only downfall is location - situated close to BWI Airport, south of Baltimore. The highway is the only way to get there.

A less expensive but perhaps more worthwhile cab ride will get you to the heart of Baltimore's Inner Harbor, where you can shop with Baltimoreans and tourists alike at the gorgeous Gallery shopping mall. The stores are top of the line, and the architecture provides a beautiful atmosphere to shop in, if you're willing to pay the money. Elaborately decorated with archways and ornamental plants, the indoor mall makes swiping your credit card in expensive stores a little bit easier.

Not a fan of big spending? Walk across the ramp to the pavilions in the Inner Harbor and spend the day paddling in the water and reading leisurely at Barnes and Noble. Either way, The Gallery is sure to bring smiles, and even a day spent window-shopping is better than studying, isn't it?

Last, and actually least, is the mall in White Marsh, also about a half-hour drive

from campus. With cramped quarters, a crappy interior and disappointing displays for familiar stores, it's better to enjoy the scenery outside the mall rather than in it. With an Old Navy, Barnes and Noble, yummy restaurants and plenty of college kids milling around, the surrounding outdoor centers provide all the relaxation you need.

And if you make it out to White Marsh, be sure not to miss Ikea. Deserving its own zip code, Ikea is truly beyond words. The Ikea "campus" includes a restaurant, espresso bar, and plenty of futons and beds to jump around on. If that doesn't impress you, wait until you see the escalator built specifically for shopping carts. It doesn't get any better than that. If you can walk out without a single thing for your apartment or dorm room, it will be the start of the end of the world.

No matter how you decide to release during the year, hitting the local malls at least once is vital to a complete college education. Whether you come back completely broke or manage to get away without a single purchase, your brain will thank you for the brief but well-earned break.

# The bigger, better neighbor of B'more

By Jed Borod

When you first visited Hopkins, your tour guide told you all about D.C.: "It's close to Hopkins. You'll visit all the time." Your tour guide was lying. Unfortunately, most freshmen never make it down to Washington because they don't have cars, or because they have classes every day and haven't developed the cavalier attitude of a true college student towards lecture attendance. It's a shame, because D.C. isn't that hard to get to, and it's always worth the trip.

If you have a car, take I-95 south to Washington. Depending on your final destination, there are multiple, different routes into the city, so ask someone from the area, use *Mapquest.com*, or consult an actual map. If you don't have a car, things are trickier. On a weekday, take the free JHMI shuttle to Penn Station, and the MARC train will get you to Union Station in D.C. The trip should take about one hour, although non-peak trains take longer and the MARC isn't known for punctuality.

Once you make it to Union Station, follow the signs to the Metro and hop

on the Red Line. The Metro will take you almost everywhere in Washington for a few dollars, is probably the easiest public transit system in the country to use, and features air conditioning. With that in mind, here are a few areas to check out, based on their metro stops.

On the Red Line, your first stop should be Dupont Circle. The best reason to visit Washington has nothing to do with civics or our hallowed halls of government, and everything to do with cheap Mexican food. Once you leave Dupont Circle Metro Station, walk down 19th Street to the alley at 1220, near the Melting Pot restaurant. In the alley, visit the Well Dressed Burrito, which will ruin your perception of Baltimore's Mexican food forever. Its only open a few hours for lunch on weekdays, but you can get an El Gordo burrito platter the size of your face for \$5.50.

If you can still move, Connecticut Avenue has a number of other restaurants and stores, and Visions D.C. (1927 Florida Avenue) is a great movie theater that features offbeat movies, food and beer. Finally, if you're feeling down, check out the nationally-tele-

vised Compliment Man, who hangs out in front of the Cosi at 1700 Connecticut Avenue. He won't ask for money, and he'll probably have something nice to say.

Adams Morgan and Georgetown are the two best areas for shopping, restaurants, and bars. Adams Morgan, located on 18th Street (the Woodley Park Zoo/Adams Morgan stop on the Red Line), has tons of good ethnic restaurants and more hipster bars than Fells Point. Due to Georgetown residents' deep fear of people who aren't rich, the closest the Metro gets to the area is the Foggy Bottom/GWU stop on the Orange Line.

From here, follow Pennsylvania Avenue for about 10 minutes to M Street (this is an epic walk in the summer heat). Georgetown has a large mix of normal chain stores, expensive clothing boutiques, and weird small stores. If your tastes in music run more toward Jonathan Richman than John Mayer, Smash (3285 1/2 M Street) has a good selection of music and appropriately unfriendly music store clerks.

If you're actually interested in cultural activities, the Smithsonian stop on the Orange and Blue Lines will lead

you to a huge number of museums, government buildings, and the Washington Monument. Power-hungry IR majors will love the International Spy Museum (800 F Street NW, accessible from the Gallery Place/Chinatown stop on the Red Line). At \$13, it's one of the most expensive museums in Washington, but you get to see the real versions of James Bond's toys.

Unfortunately, both the Metro and the MARC stop service early each night. Likewise, if you're planning to see a concert or spend a night in Adams Morgan, you'll have a hard time getting back without driving. I can only tell you to master a vital skill of the college freshman: make friends with someone who has a car.

## ADOPTION

We are a loving couple without children who very much wish to start our family through the adoption of an infant. We are willing to pay legal and medical expenses.

If you are considering adoption please contact us toll free at 1-888-274-0195.

## Just a hop, skip and a train ride to D.C.



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN/NEWS-LETTER

During the week, the MARC train is the cheapest, easiest route to D.C.

By Julianna Finelli

If you think Baltimore isn't all it's cracked up to be, try visiting its bigger and better neighbor, Washington, D.C.; the city offers countless more clubs, bars, restaurants, venues and tourist

attractions, not to mention a far superior public transportation system, than Charm City. And best of all, it's only a short train ride away.

The MARC train's Penn Line runs between Baltimore's Penn Station and D.C.'s Union Station. For only \$7 each

way, the 45-minute train ride will put you right on the D.C. Metro's Red Line. Just pick up a subway map, and you can get anywhere you want to go in the city. Metro fares will usually run around \$1.20 a trip.

Getting to Penn Station is as easy as hopping on the Homewood-JHMI shuttle, which runs every half-hour during the week and hourly on weekends. The shuttle picks up passengers behind Shriver Auditorium, and the ride is free with a Hopkins ID. It stops right at Penn Station (located at 1525 N. Charles St.).

When you arrive at Union Station, takesome time to browse through its many shops, enjoy its stunning architecture, or even catch dinner and a movie. Then follow the signs to the Metro trains, where you'll hop on board the Red Line toward Shady Grove. The Red Line will get you to such hotspots as Adams Morgan, Dupont Circle or Bethesda. It will also get you to Gallery Place/Chinatown and the Metro Center, which are transfer points for the Green, Yellow, Blue and Orange lines. Just be sure to check the Metro map before embarking.

Once you've completed your trip and you're back at Penn Station, you can pick up the same Homewood-JHMI shuttle at the Charles Street MTA bus stop.

Couldn't be simpler, right?

Well, there is a small caveat. Because it's a commuter rail, the MARC train

only runs Monday through Friday. If you plan on traveling over the weekend, you'll have to take an Amtrak train, which runs on the same track but costs \$14 each way. During certain hours, the trip can cost you up to \$28.

Be sure to check train times before you plan your trip - you don't want to wind up stuck in D.C. at night with nowhere to stay. The last MARC train out of D.C. departs at 10:35 p.m., and the last shuttle from Penn Station to Homewood campus is at 11:30 p.m. If you miss the last shuttle, you can always take a cab home from Penn Station (for about \$5 to \$6). If you miss the 10:35 p.m. MARC or the 11 p.m. Amtrak train, however, your last chance is the 3 a.m. Amtrak train, which costs \$28 on Saturday morning and \$14 on Sunday morning.

So if you do plan to visit our nation's capitol, make sure you plan carefully. Always carry enough money for cab fare, as well as a credit or debit card in case of emergencies.

MARC automated telephone line: 1-(800)-325-RAIL (7245)

Amtrak automated telephone line: 1-(800)-USA-RAIL (872-7245)

Metrail system map: <http://www.wmata.com/metrail/systemmap.cfm>

Homewood-JHMI shuttle: <http://www.jhu.edu/~security/JHMSched.htm>

# Baltimore's secret cultural paradise

By Francesca Hansen

Your trip to one of Baltimore's cosmopolitan hideaways begins behind Shriver.

Hop aboard the JHMI shuttle, and let this yellow school bus take you to one of the most interesting neighborhoods in the region: Mount Vernon. Ten blocks north of the Inner Harbor, and a 180 degree departure from its megachains, this historical district is quaint, cozy and quirky.

The Peabody stop on the JHMI route will deposit you next to Charles Street, which becomes the main drag, winding through Mount Vernon. As you arrive on Mount Vernon place, you'll see what looks like a knockoff of the Washington Monument. However, the large monument to George Washington in the heart of Mount Vernon was actually the first tribute to the President, built in 1815 — thirty years before construction of the famous obelisk in D.C. If you want to play tourist, put on your white sneakers and fanny pack and climb the 228 steps to the top to get a panoramic view of Baltimore.

Meandering on the streets surrounding the monument, the window shopper can get a good taste of Towson Town Center alternatives. With contemporary fashion boutiques such as Chrome and Nouveau, and vintage stores such as The Zone and Dreamland, J. Crew pales in comparison. For the hardcore vintage enthusiasts, a well-established "Antique

Row" stretches down North Howard Street.

To gain a sense of why Mt. Vernon lives up to its cultural reputation, start at the Walters Museum. With beautiful architecture and a diverse permanent collection, it's a great place to linger and feel quasi-intellectual.

For music aficionados, Mt. Vernon has a rich history. Representing Baltimoreans Billie Holiday and Eubie Blake, the Eubie Blake National Jazz Institute and Cultural Center is a shrine to the jazz greats who used to frequent Mount Vernon's Royal Theatre. This museum is a treat for the jazz buff, and with an entry fee less than a cup of coffee (\$2 for students), it's the perfect cheap date.

For the classics, the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall is home to the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, which also hosts performances by Peabody students. With reduced student prices, it's worth changing the pace a little from the endless drone of party music.

When your lazy cultural Saturday afternoon becomes a hot Saturday night, Mount Vernon is a neighborhood that you can actually go out on. To kick off the evening, have dinner at one of the area's many diverse restaurants. The Helmand offers Afghani food at reasonable prices, and for the imperialistically minded, The Brass Elephant offers Indian Cuisine with a so-called taste of the old British Empire.

If you don't mind paper napkins, try Donna's on Mount Vernon place, with a beautiful view of the monument and the nearby church. Or for a quality breakfast cheaper than Terrace Court, try the \$3.50-for-breakfast deal at Wally's Deli. Or try the Women's Industrial Exchange, a 1940s-style café with more cheap breakfasts and a famous \$5 bowl of chicken gumbo.

From high-class dining to real Baltimore experiences, Mount Vernon gives a sense of Baltimore as a city beyond Charles Village. On the intersection of Charles and Saratoga Streets, you may notice the Old St. Paul Church, with its Tiffany stained glass

window. Look a little further to The Belvedere, one of Baltimore's finest hotels, with two bars to look forward to spending your 21st in — The Thirteenth Floor and Owl Bar, located in the basement. And if you're lucky, you may run across some real live Baltimoreans. Yes, people who aren't Hopkins students. Have a cup of coffee at one of the many local diners, and listen to people who actually call this great city we live in "Bawl'mer."

Ignore those who stick to the Homewood bubble, and go explore Mount Vernon. Expanding your Baltimorean horizons is well worth 15 minutes on a school bus again.



VADIM GRETCHOUCHKIN/NEWS-LETTER  
George Washington rides his monument in historic Mount Vernon.

## Hampden: A '50s love nest for 2003

By Teresa Matejovsky

Hampden. For such an inconspicuous little neighborhood, it is the American mecca of mullets, big hair, spandex pants, snapping bubble gum and bad "Bawl'mer" accents. Just a hop, skip and jump away from campus, this town sparkles in a fabulously tacky, hometown glory that features everything from soda fountains to thrift stores to home-made apple pie.

In all its pink flamingo splendor, Hampden is nationally acclaimed for its distinctive, small town charm — a carefully preserved tribute to the 1950s, working class "Bawl'mer," as they say. The collection of neat brick row houses is tucked like a hidden chest of gaudy plastic treasure behind the Rotunda at W. 40th St.

The gem of Hampden is three blocks along W. 36th St, fondly known as "The Avenue" by locals. Between the 700 and 1100 blocks, one finds great eats, shops and people-watching. A slew of festivals throughout the year bring crowds flocking to craft vendors, lemonade stands,

local bands and face painting.

A signature characteristic of the sock-and-sandal Baltimore "Hon" (or 1950s working class mom) is making dinner for the fam. The Avenue offers several restaurants that pay tribute to good old American comfort foods (and are easy on the college student budget). Café Hon (1002 The Ave.) takes the cake with its famed homestyle cooking, homemade apple pie and freshly squeezed margaritas. Angelo's Carryout lets students bring the amazement home: "big" takes on a new meaning with their monster, thin-crust pizza creation.

Ice cream lovers will find heaven with a cherry on top. The Avenue Ice Cream Shoppe (900 The Ave.) offers old-fashioned sundaes, milkshakes and ice cream creations. The Soda Fountain in the back of Hometown Girl and Co. gift shop (1001 The Avenue) is a fabulous blast from the past that's carefully restored to its 1909 grandeur, where customers can get made-to-order milkshakes, malts and root beer floats.

The Golden West Café features a

coffee bar and scrumptious amazingly-priced organic and vegetarian sandwiches. Suzie's Soba (1009 The Ave.) offers Korean and Japanese cuisine seven days a week. Holy Frijoles (908 The Ave.) cooks up scrumptious Mexican fare. Common Ground (819 The Ave.) serves fabulous espresso and fresh muffins in a cozy brick nook.

Thrift store lovers and craft enthusiasts alike will delight in Hampden shopping. While the town may be the greatest lasting tribute to one of the tackiest decades in history, The Avenue splays out like a treasure chest of quality finds. Fat Elvis (833 The Ave.) and Galvanize (927 The Ave.) both offer a century of fun and eccentric clothing, although the prices of their extensive collections can be a bit steep.

Wild Yam Pottery (863 The Ave.) is a workshop and gallery that also offers made-to-order ceramics. Find fresh, unique creations at Mud and Metal, quirky old reads and comics at Atomic Books, and an assortment of home and garden decorations at In Watermelon Sugar. These stores all

regularly get stand-out reviews in The City Paper's "Best of Baltimore" and in Baltimore Magazine.

As far as festivals go, Hampden sure knows how to put on a show. This wrinkle in tacky time is home to the Baltimore Hon Festival each June, where local women don their tallest beehives, biggest wingtip sunglasses, gaudiest polyester t-shirts, tightest leggings and heaviest "Bawl'mer" accent to compete for "Hon of the Year."

The fall festival, HampdenFest, comes this year on Sept. 21 from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. It features the usual vendors, crafts, flea market and food stalls, as well as local bands and an antique car show. Christmastime brings the nationally-acclaimed Miracle on 34th Street, a spectacularly obscene light display hosted year after year by the homes on the 700 block of W. 34th St: crowds are drawn to it like moths to a flame.

Check out Hampden for yourself — you won't believe it till you see it. This jewel of a town is waiting for you with open arms and a big pink plastic flamingo. Just keep in mind that most shops on The Avenue are closed Mondays.



## Get your dose of culture

By Emily Nalven

The Baltimore Museum of Art is free of charge for all students and adjacent to the Homewood Campus on Art Museum Drive.

With one of the largest Matisse collections in the world, the BMA is one of the top art museums in the country. Amassed by two eclectic Baltimore sisters, Claribel and Etta Cone, the museum also showcases works by Picasso, Cézanne, Gauguin, van Gogh and Renoir, and a variety of textiles, jewelry, furniture and African, Asian and Near Eastern art.

Besides the art collection, there are two gift shops inside the museum that have excellent presents for professors, advisors and bosses.

Also, Gertrude's restaurant is housed inside the museum. Gertrude's is a top Baltimore restaurant, serving Chesapeake cuisine. \$10 entrees are offered every Tuesday and the first Thursday of every month.

Make sure not to miss the upcoming exhibit on Edgar Allen Poe. Timed to run during the Halloween season, this exhibit, organized by Hopkins students, will take a look at the artists and artwork inspired by Poe.

You have no excuse not to check out the Sculpture Garden, which runs right through campus behind Shaffer Hall.

The Walters Art Museum is newly renovated and contains an impressive collection spanning 55 centuries. A short bus ride down North Charles Street from the Homewood Campus, the museum is one of the top cultural centers in Baltimore.

It houses one of the largest collections of armor in the world, as well as ancient Egyptian, Roman and Grecian treasures, and works by Fabergé (as in the eggs), Monet and Picasso.

Not to be overlooked are the attractions in the permanent collection. On display are rare manuscripts, European decorative art and the oldest surviving wood image of the Great Buddha.

Interspersed throughout the year are college nights at the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. For \$10, students can get some culture and attend the post-concert parties, with free food from Philips and the Hard Rock Café.

There also are \$1 drink specials at college-night concerts and opportunities to mingle with symphony musicians and the A-list crowd of Baltimore.

# STUDENT SAVINGS DAYS!

Thurs., Sept. 4 – Sat., Sept. 6, Only!

## SAVE AN EXTRA

# 20%

Show us your student ID, and we'll offer you 20% off almost everything in the store.\*

## Books • Music • DVDs • More!

888.81BOOKS [www.borders.com](http://www.borders.com)

Find out.

**BORDERS®**  
BOOKS MUSIC MOVIES CAFE

\*Discount on electronics and video games is 10%. Excludes previous and online purchases, gift cards, periodicals, comics, special orders not in stock, and shipping. May not combine with coupons.

©2003 Borders, Inc. 16518-A

DISTRACTIONS **N-L**

# Is Johnny Hop worth the wager?

If you think education is expensive, try ignorance!

— Andy McIntyre.

By Maany Peyvan

Welcome to Johns Hopkins University, an almost great place to go to school. Chances are Hopkins was among your top college choices and that you're more or less expecting to have an adequate time here. Well, you're in luck. While many schools might spend countless hours and countless millions trying to achieve adequacy, Hopkins has been merely adequate for years now. In fact, JHU is light years ahead of the competition in terms of providing a passable undergraduate experience.

Is this experience worth the 30 some-odd thousands of dollars a year it costs to attend this somewhat competent institution? Well, I ask you: can you really put a price on borderline tolerability?

It's important to understand a few things about JHU. First and foremost, it is a research driven university. For instance, a commission at Hopkins spent 17 months researching why so many graduating seniors are dissatisfied with their experience and would not choose

to come to Hopkins if they were presented with the choice again.

This Commission on Undergraduate Education (CUE) found that students feel an overall lack of community and a belief that Hopkins does not care about the quality of their experience. While the academic experience is top-drawer, many students find themselves in large lecture classes, busy meeting their pre-professional requirements rather than their professors.

The news is a bit unsettling, especially to parents signing over personal checks to the University. As state aid to private universities is slashed, tuition at Hopkins outpaces national interest rates. Parents' choice of sending their children to Hopkins is no longer just an academic issue but an economic one as well.

So if satisfaction is scarce at Hopkins, why do more students choose to enroll year after year? The bottom line is that Hopkins graduates are exceedingly well-prepared to venture towards graduate school or industry and acceptance rates to pre-professional schools are much higher than the national average.

While this long-term thinking may satisfy the majority of students' parents, it does little to remedy the concerns of students looking for a different type of experience than they find

here at JHU. This carrot-at-the-end-of-the-stick philosophy does not sit well with students who are seeking a more balanced and complete experience from their college.

Hopkins is not a coddling environment. Students are for the most part left to their own with little support outside of friends and family. For many, this bootstraps approach seems to work perfectly. A majority of students are focused on their goals and work hard enough to achieve them. But too often it seems students get left behind by this somewhat brusque approach. High-school hotshots become college dropouts and straight "A" students land on academic probation.

But what is it that separates those disenchanting and dissatisfied students from those who make the best of their situation? What separates the successful Hopkins grad from the embittered one? Direction.

Students who have a well-developed understanding of what they want to do with their lives will invariably benefit from Hopkins much more so than students who still have those questions to answer.

The majority of students at Hopkins are one-minded and ambitious, set on their goals and future careers. For these students, almost nothing stands between

them and attending a top medical school or graduate program. This attitude is what gives Hopkins its reputation as a hyper-competitive, pre-med factory.

For students unsure of their majors, let alone their careers, this climate can be intimidating if not discouraging. Students who are a bit more capricious, bouncing around from one major to the next, may find the Hopkins experience a bit unforgiving. Like it or not, students are in competition with one other and those not lucky enough to know what they want to do with their lives are at a marked disadvantage compared to their determined peers.

Hopkins has the highest standards for academic success and discipline. The education the University offers is the paramount reason for its success in attracting undergraduates. For students ready to utilize those resources, and for students with the foresight to look beyond their college years, Hopkins is among the top providers of higher education, regardless of cost.

But for those students still in need of self-discovery and an academic destiny, Hopkins seems an ill fit. A student less sure of their path in life might be better off paying tuition at a school that will nurture and mentor their undergraduates. Otherwise, you might find your experience, well, simply adequate.

<http://www.jhunewsletter.com>



THIS is  
News-Letter.

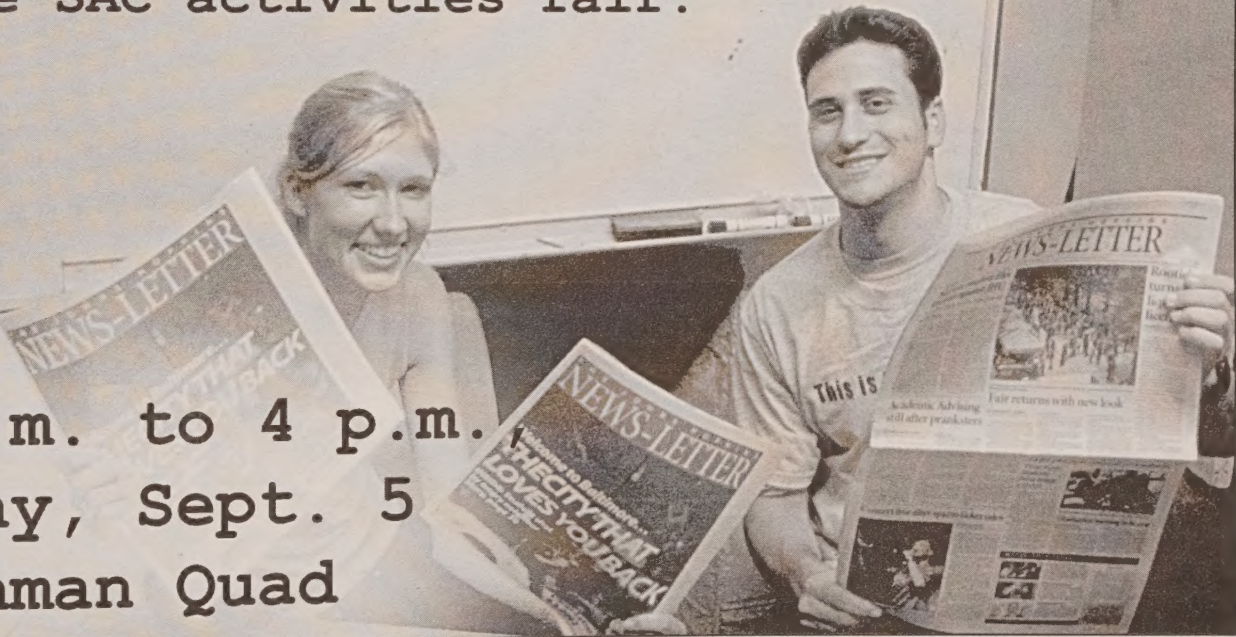
Want to join News-Letter?

# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Check us out this Friday  
at the SAC activities fair.

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Friday, Sept. 5  
Freshman Quad



## The News-Letter would like to thank:

Bill Smedick, Brenda Armour, Susan Boswell  
and Tristan Davies for all their help and guidance.

Patrick Moran and the Office of Facilities Management  
for help with serious spring cleaning.

Charles Hofeller for our beautiful new fax machine.

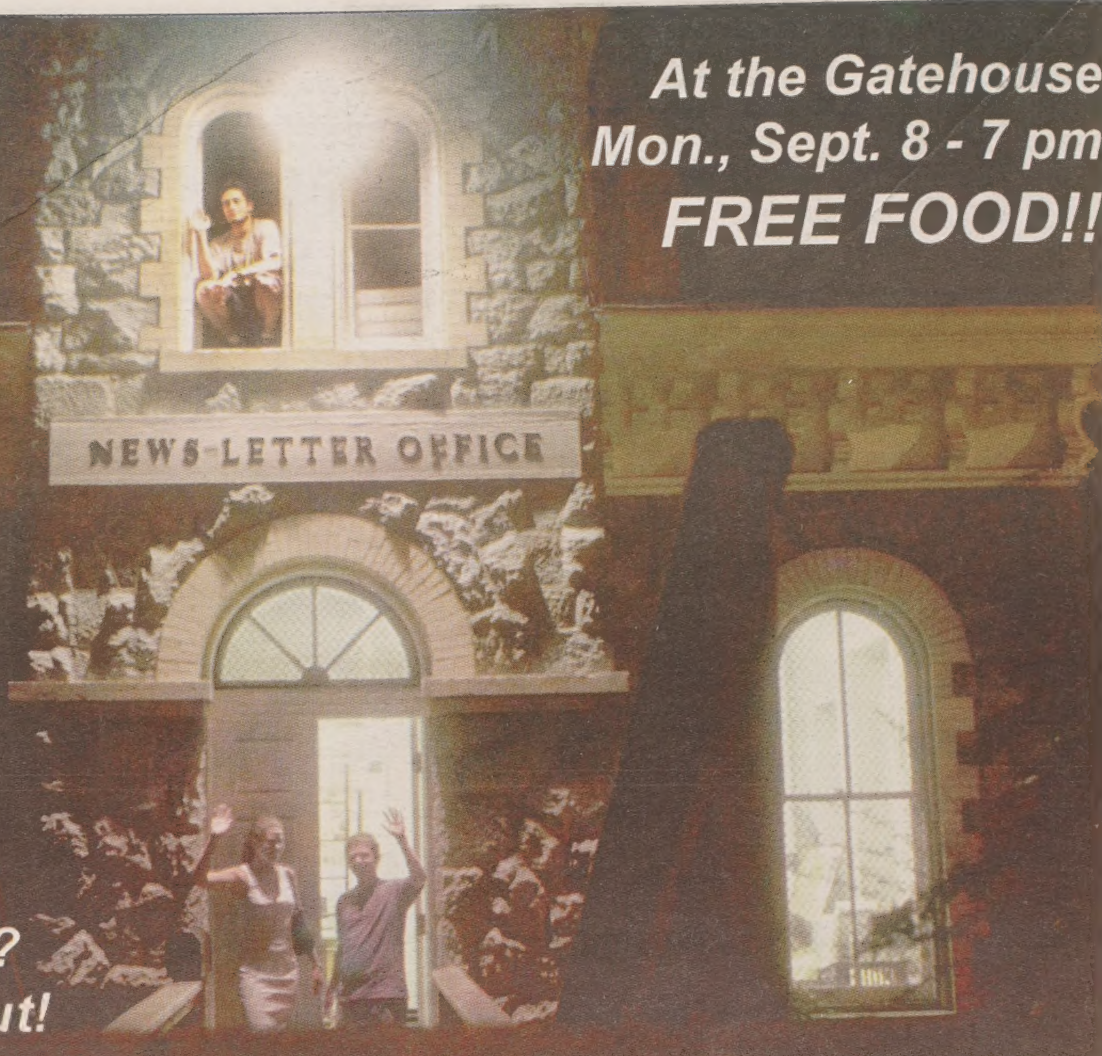
Scott McDowell and Apple Computer  
for computers soon to come.

Jack and Linda at Southern Maryland Printing for being there for us in the middle of the night.

# News-Letter Open House

*At the Gatehouse  
Mon., Sept. 8 - 7 pm  
**FREE FOOD!!***

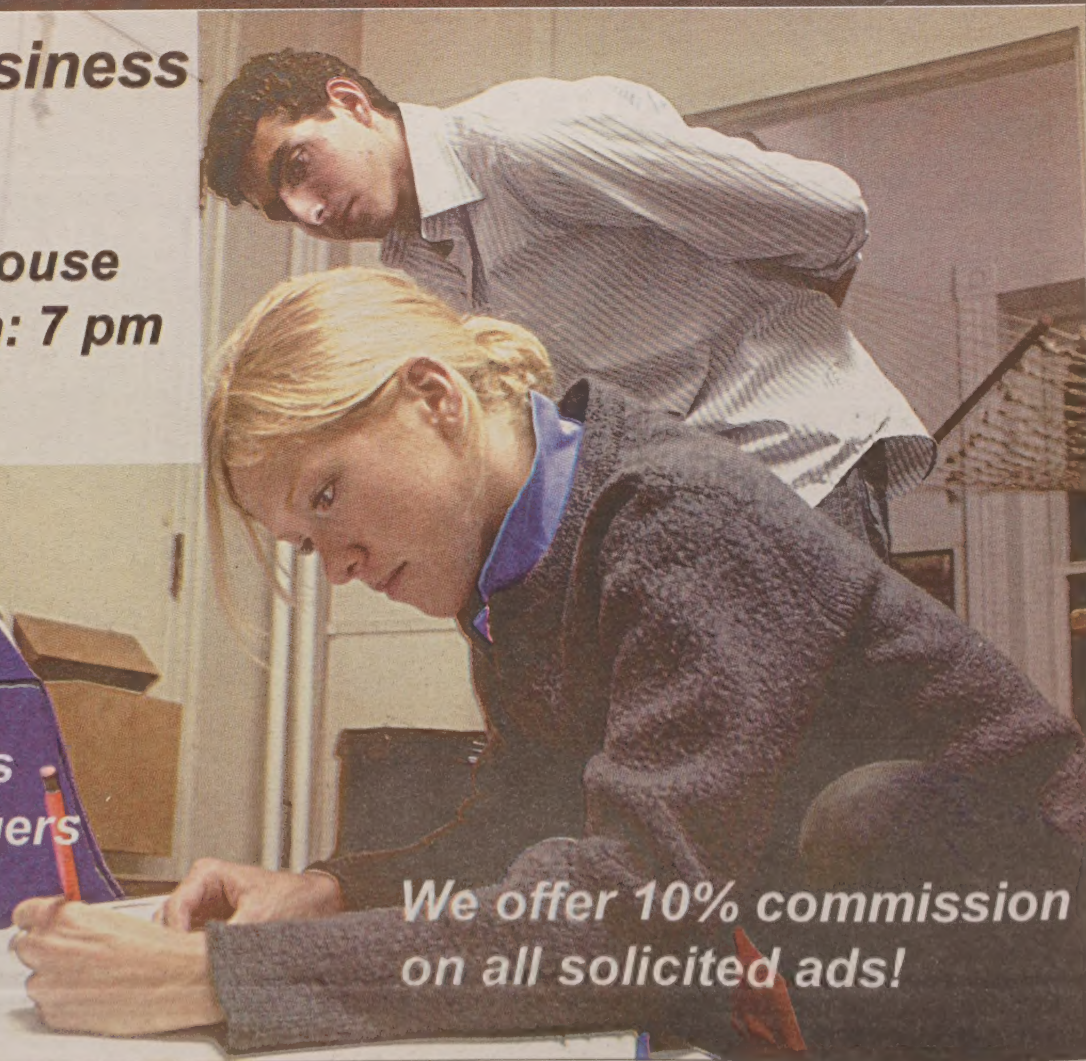
*Are You A:  
Reporter?  
Photographer?  
Copy Reader?  
Cartoonist?  
Graphic Designer?  
Come check us out!*



## News-Letter Business Open House

*Come to the Gatehouse  
Monday, Sept. 15th: 7 pm  
**FREE FOOD!***

*Looking For:  
Business Assistants  
Subscription Managers  
Ad Solicitors*



*We offer 10% commission  
on all solicited ads!*